AS EMORY BURKE SEES IT

EDITOR, The Advertiser: I enjoyed the conversation I had with you last week, also the reading of your letter about me to Ralph McGill. Before I go to the matter of the conversation and the letter I would like to point out that in general I agree with your conclusions about the Town Hall meeting of last week. The Advertiser

I agree with you that Williams should be highly condemned because of his attitude toward the draft and universal military training. His attitude is what it is because his spiritual center of gravity is not America but Soviet Russia. He looks upon the Soviet system as near-ideal, and he wants America to follow down the pathway of Soviet leadership. I enjoyed that Town Hall crowd even more than I did the speaking. The Lord only knows how I yearned to get up on that platform. Yours

The draft and universal military training do not lift the people up to an emotional level as does the race question. That is why Williams' ideas on these subjects did not arouse the people as did his views concerning the Negroes. The former questions concern intelligence far more than folkish feeling and, therefore, they are of a negative character insofar as mass reaction is concerned. The Negro question on the other hand is an emotional under box full of the hottest kind of fire. 4-1-48

But my greatest criticism of the whole affair was the drab and utterly lifeless manner in which the meeting was staged. No flag. No music. No decorations. No banners. No real enthusiasm. No energy on the part of the speakers. No deep feeling that the speakers were really in earnest. If that had been my meeting you can rest assured that there would have been some showmanship and downright drama. Aubrey Williams struck me as being more in earnest than the other speakers, but he never made contact with the crowd, so his talking was completely useless, and did not in the least advance his cause. Montgomery, Ala

THIS meeting has given firmer ground than ever to my old conviction that the conservatives cannot save themselves from the strong-willed, confident, aggressive and dynamic forces of the new revolutionary spirit. I value more than ever the technique of fighting and conquering the forces of Communism with their own weapons more than ever before. Men like Sparks, McCorvey, Sparkman and Hill simply are not dynamic enough in their approach to the problem to be able to stop the tide of Williams, Folsom and Wallace. They are not acquainted with the first element of showmanship. If times were really critical here in America—that is, if Wallace had just a little more power — these men would follow the route of Benes in Czechoslovakia. Communism really has nothing to fear from such men.

At this point I am not restricting the matter to the forthcoming presidential election. I know this is obvious to you. But I am thinking in terms of the years of the future—1952, 1956 and 1960.

If the conservatives are to be saved their salvation must be brought about by a movement of an intensely dynamic nature but loyal at the same time to the fundamental landmarks of our American society. This means an economic system based on the idea of private enterprise, but modified and regulated in such a way that the national interest will always be represented on a plane higher than any group interest. If even the landmarks of the capitalistic system are to be preserved this is the route we must take. Yours

Stubborn and senseless opposition to the general trend within capitalistic states dring this period of history are foredoomed to fail. The feudal lords during the latter part of the feudal age, even if they had been intelligent enough to realize that they were living in a perod of transition, could have done nothing whatsoever to ward off the inevitable victory of the forces which brought about the industrial revolution. 4-1-48

But with few exceptions the approaching capitalism worked itself out in the various states along the lines of the old landmarks of the previous period. That is all that we can hope to do in America. Try as we will we will never bring back the pre-1929 years. Sparks and McCorvey, and to a less extent even Sparkman and Hill, think in terms of those years. In this respect their position, due to the relentless and heartless iron-logic of history, is absolutely hopeless. . . . . .

THE "squads right" argument of Williams was really a laugh. Williams seems to be a very intelligent man and his thinking along many lines no doubt would be in harmony with these times. But he believes too firmly in the necessity of ignoring and repudiating tradition, custom, and the folkish ways of the people to even hope to gain much support for his ideas. In short, and in plain words, he is too much of an intellectual to ever be a people's leader—or for that matter to even be an adviser of a people's leader. Good delivery is not worth a continental unless what the speaker is delivering makes contact with his audience. He probably would make a hit with a Negro audience.

Now about the letter-editorial written by you to Ralph McGill. In the first place I do not appreciate at all your reference to Nietzsche. I do not recall Nietzsche having been discussed in our conversation. As a matter of fact I am positive he was not discussed. The Advertiser

It was very unfair of you to associate my name with such a thoroughly detested character. On the other hand it is quite interesting to note in passing that many behave as though they agreed with Zarathustra rather than with the Sermon on the Mount. I believe you said that you would like to take a machine-gun in your hands and mow down the Ku Klux Klan. Tut. tut, you are the one who undoubtedly has been reading Nietzsche: Montgomery, Ala

"Ye have heard how in old times it was said, Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth; but I say unto you, Blessed are the valiant, for they shall make the earth their throne. And ye have heard men say, Blessed are the poor in spirit; but I say unto you, Blessed are the great in soul and the free in spirit, for they shall enter into Valhalla. And ye have heard men say, Blessed are the peacemakers; but I say unto you, Bleessd are the war-makers, for they shall be called if not the children of Yahweh, the children of Odin, who is greater than Yahweh." The Advertiser

Believe it or not I really appreciate your biding me good luck in your farewell words. Indeed, by the very fact that you are an American we are both bound up with the same destiny for good or ill. Regardless of what you may think today you will eventually come around to my point-of-view. 4-1-48 EMORY BURKE.

Montgomery Montgomery, Ala

EMORY LAUGHS SO...E NOW

Editor, The Atlanta Constitution:

The Advertiser Montgomery, Ala Feb 13-26-48

My old high school classmate and your fan, Emory Burke, Jr., dropped in the office late the other afternoon. I was reading William Brann's famous 19th Century editorial on "The Science Of Kissing."

I hadn't seen Burke in more than 12 years, but the pictures two years ago of him in his Storm Trooper uniform in Atlanta helped. He was patently startled when I quickly but casually said, "Come on in, Emory." I was startled myself.

I instantly decided that this was not the same Emory whom I had interviewed on the phone two years ago in Atlanta. His personality and even perhaps his body had felt the impact of his experiences since you and The Atlanta Journal exposed Columbians, Inc., and the law disposed.

We talked a good deal about you. I asked him, "Emory, are you still sore with Ralph McGill?" He said he was. But he wasn't sore with me because of "old time's sake."

Emory is now contributing to a Columbus, Ga. sheet, "The Trumpet," run by "Parson Jack." The issue in Emory's pocket had a banner line, "Ralph McGill Admits He Agrees With Truman."

Emory made it plain—and I think he meant it—that he hadn't come to my office with any idea of prompting a write-up. But I pointed out that he had soaked up a lot of my time and I insisted on getting my investment back with a bulletin to Montgomery on a native son.

Montgomerians were interested two years ago when Emory became a national figure as fuhrer of Columbians, Inc., a gang of Atlanta hoodlums who affected the dress and manner of Storm Troopers. They forgot about Emory after a Fulton County court convicted him on three counts of "usurping police authority" in connection with an Atlanta riot.

EMORY said he was awaiting action on his appeal to the higher courts. He said he was making a living now for wife (a Montgomery girl) and three children by doing a little "engineering and house-building work." He's living in Atlanta, but has spent a good deal of time in Montmery. The Advertiser

was surprised to see that the hitherto rce and screeching Montgomery fascist able to laugh. You can't keep him the subject of political dynamics and urgent need of strong-running nationalism long enough to rehearse boyhood, but there are interludes and he was able to laugh, even as you and me.

"Emory," I said, "you seem to have mellowed a helluva lot. Are your experiences getting you down? Are you chastened?" Montgomery, Ala.

He smiled. I asked, "Emory, how could you have made such a fool of yourself posturing like a squirt Hitler?" He took that in very good part. It was otherwise on Nov. 15, 1946 when he said in Atlanta:

"In two years we will be electing the officials in Fulton County and we will go on from there." Fri. 3-26-48

And when he said also:

"Don't make your article too rough. We don't want to burn any bridges behind us . . ."

He had subsided a good deal since then. I said, "Emory, have you ever asked yourself if you are as well balanced emotionally as the average man?"

"Sure I think you're well-balanced—"

"No, Emory, I'm talking about you."

"Oh, I suppose, I am emotional, if that's what you mean," he said.

"When you get up in front of a crowd to make a speech it just drives you nuts, doesn't it?"

"I like to speak, I guess."

THEN his fervor began to run. It lacked the surf fervor of times past, but he was just as devoted to Nietzsche. He believed we had to have some sort of repression of the powerful Jewish minority groups which control you and a powerful nationalism.

Montgomery, Ala. The Advertiser

It is a little bit awkward these days finding yourself saying the same things about Communism as Hitler said. And it was also a little bit awkward to find Emory saying a lot of the things about the Russians The Advertiser has lately been saying. As he was leaving I said, "Emory, you've marked an apparent mellowness and when done some bad things and you won't do with the Georgia Klan. He said he knew some- you, but just the same, I wish you good presently card-luck." Fri. 3-26-48

Georgia Court Uholds Prison Term For Burke

The Advertiser Montgomery, Ala. Sat 2-14-48

ATLANTA, Feb. 13.—(AP)—A three-year term for Emory Burke, president of the now-disbanded Columbians, was upheld by the Georgia Court of Appeals Friday.

Burke, indicted jointly with Homer L. Loomis, Jr., but tried separately, was convicted on three counts on a five count indictment charging impersonation of a police officer.

The counts on which Burke was convicted charged: (1) The patrolling of the street in front of 313 Formwalt Street and illegal enforcement of an ordinance against loitering; (2) armed investigation of an alleged criminal assault on the grounds of an Atlanta school, and (3) investigation of an alleged act of disorderly conduct.

Burke was sentenced to serve 12 months on each of the three counts, the sentences to run consecutively. Sat 2-14-48

Columbians May Be Freed by State Court

(Daily Worker (Pa.) 3) New York, N.Y.

From official circles in Georgia I learn there is grave danger that the state supreme court may any day be obliged to wipe out the sentences against leaders of the Columbians Inc., those brownshirted storm troopers who cropped up in Atlanta in 1946. Fri. 1-16-48

It seems that several of the Columbians who turned state's witnesses have now turned back into Columbians and have signed affidavits that they perjured themselves on the witness stand.

Three of the Columbian leaders—Homer Loomis Jr., Emory Burke and Ira Jett—have been sentenced to from three to four years on such charges as usurping police powers, inciting to riot and illegal possession of dynamite. All are free on bond pending outcome of their appeals

•

LOOMIS has become a henchman of Gerald L. N. Smith and spoke recently in St. Louis and Detroit.

Loomis' Father Asks Voiding Of State Law Against Son

Daily Record Atlanta, Ga.

Appearing before the Georgia Supreme Court Thursday Homer Loomis Sr., pleaded to the high court to declare void the state law by which his son, Homer Loomis Jr. was convicted of usurping police power. Sat 1-17-48

The son of the attorney who made the pleading was convicted and sentenced to serve four and a half years when he was leader of the Columbians, Inc., who allegedly set themselves up as a police organization to prevent Negroes from moving into white communities in 1946.

Loomis' father argued that the jury which convicted his son was "aroused by empty words" and that the original indictment and testimony at the trial were "utterly incredible" as basis for legal action

Representing the state, Walter LeCraw told the court that the question of constitutionality of the law had not been raised in lower courts and thus was not admissable before the Supreme court. 1-17-48

ALABAMA DEPUTY SHERIFF REPORTS:

Hooded Raid Effect 'Good,' Poll Reveals

The Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.

BIRMINGHAM, June 22—(AP)—The raid of white-robed men on a Negro Girl Scout camp near Bessemer, Ala., on June 10 was approved by a majority of residents of that area, Chief Deputy Sheriff Clyde Morris declared today. 6-23-48 Wed.

The officer's statement was in a "partial report" of the incident to Prosecutor Howard Sullinger.

Two white women, Misses Kathrine Nickel and Elizabeth Ijams, were ordered to leave the camp by about 100 robed and hooded men. They were instructing Negro girl leaders, and occupied separate quarters. Wed. 6-23-48

Morris said in his report the raid was "a well-planned affair." The deputy said 92 residents of the area had been interviewed.

The Constitution

All (both white and colored) are of the opinion that the visit had a good effect on the community," Morris' report said. 6-23-48

Morris did not report identification of any member of the hooded band. He added that his investigation would go on "locally and otherwise with the expressed hope of bringing the offenders to reckoning." Wed. 6-23-48

Proud But Unidentified

To the Editor of The News: 6-30-48

The subject of the K. K. K. has been discussed pro and con, and many nasty and despicable things have been said. By whom? By people who do not know what they are talking about.

I am a K. K. K. and proud of it. There is not a church or lodge or any organization that puts its members through any cleaner and rigid examination than said order of Federated K. K. K. The News

In the event of a national crisis, the K. K. K. would be the first to respond. They do not foster hate campaigns as some misinformed people would have you believe.

But be it known that no shyster lawyer or Communist bands will ever be able to destroy the noble aims and purposes of the K. K. K.

I am a preacher of the Gospel, and I say "that if some of these fat, greasy, panty-waist preachers would get intestinal fortitude enough to preach the Gospel, and keep their mouths out of things which they know absolutely nothing about, I am sure the churches would have more people in them.

I don't know whether the K. K. K. had anything to do with the recent controversy or not, but I say that there is an abundance of Negro talent in Alabama, and other places. I am sure these Negroes can do more for their own race in the way of leadership than white people can. I listen to Negro preachers and they have some fine singers on the radio. Ths is a talent that has not been taught to them by scantily-dressed white women. Birmingham, Ala

I believe that most intelligent Negroes consider it an indictment against their intelligence to try to force white leadership on them. Wed. 6-30-48

I admonish the colored people that they are being made tools of radical and Communist organizations, and these same organizations have the backing of prominent men and women who will stoop low in order to further their own selfish and sinister purpose.

A KLANSMAN.

(EDITOR'S NOTE—For reasons that should be obvious, The News departs in printing the above letter from its general rule of not printing anonymous letters.)

KKK Burns Cabin—Why? Negro Workers Built It!

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 7-24-48

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—The Ku Klux Klan set fire to a cabin near Dixie Camp on the Coosa River in Chilton County recently, all because Negro carpenters had been used in its construction. The cabin, owned by a Roy Roebuck, white, had evidently been destroyed two weeks earlier, but was not discovered until last week.

According to Roebuck, he went up to the cabin to take some materials and found it had been burned down. A paper found nearby bore the following inscription: "Final warning: No Negro does any building this side of the creek." It was signed "KKK."

KKK Shows How Not To Solve Housing Issue

Norfolk, Va.

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — (ANP) The Ku Klux Klan set fire to a cabin near Dixie Camp on the Coosa River in Chilton county recently, all because Negro carpenters had been used in its construction. The cabin, owned by a Roy Roebuck, white, had evidently been destroyed two weeks earlier, but was not discovered until last week. Sat. 1-24-48

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Folsom's Paper Asks Him To Ban Klan

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Va. 7-17-48

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—(ANP) — Gil Sanford, columnist in Folsum's Forum, organ of Gov. Jim Folsom of Alabama, lambasted local and state officials Thursday and scored them for failure to take action against the Ku Klux Klan. Sanford said Folsom promised privately last January to revoke the klan charter if it started acting up.

Pointing to an incident which occurred recently when a band of hooded and robed men visited a girl scout camp near Bessemer and warned two young white women who were instructing the Negro girls to leave town, Sanford said, "nobody was harmed but the lady called justice." 7-20-48

Baptist Pastors Union Blasts Hooded Raiders

The Birmingham News
Birmingham, Ala. Fri.

Demands Full Inquiry Of Girl Scout Camp Incident And Prosecution Of All Offenders

6-25-48

Protests against the night raid on a Negro Girl Scout camp near Bessemer mounted today as word was awaited on possible legal action to drive the Ku Klux Klan out of Birmingham and Alabama.

Newest voice added to the growing list of individuals and organizations protesting the June 10 raid on Camp Pauline Bray Fletcher by a band of hooded, white-robed men was the Birmingham Baptist Pastors Conference.

The Baptist pastors adopted a resolution demanding that law enforcement officers "apprehend and vigorously prosecute the offenders and take steps to make it less likely that such an incident happen again in our community."

The ministers said they opposed "any lawless groups, hooded or unhooded, taking the law in their own hands and trying to enforce their will by violence and intimidation."

They called the incident at Camp Fletcher "shameful."

The resolution was signed by the Rev. James C. Harris, conference president, and by the Rev. James M. Butler, chairman of the Baptist inter-racial committee.

In New York City, Mrs. Paul Rittenhouse, director of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America, said national officers of the organization have investigated the incident and found it "completely unwarranted."

Mrs. Rittenhouse said the national executive committee of the Girl Scouts adopted the following resolution:

"It will continue to be the policy of the Girl Scouts to serve members regardless of race or creed, and to extend membership as rapidly as possible to all those who wish to join. 6-25-48

"We shall continue our country-wide program of training adults for leadership and shall provide for this purpose the best available instructors drawn from local groups and the national staff."

* * *

THE REPORT by Bessemer Chief Deputy Clyde Morris on the incident at Camp Fletcher was denounced by Abe Berkowitz, Birmingham attorney, seeking revocation of the Klan's charter to operate in Alabama.

Chief Deputy Morris' report, which said residents of the camp vicinity "are of the opinion the visit has had a good effect on the community," was "almost as offensive as the incident itself," Atty. Berkowitz declared.

"One tragic thing about the report is—not that it failed to develop real clues, for these are difficult to obtain—but that this hideous thing is tending to corrode and affect the slant of law enforcement officers in a matter of this kind," Mr. Berkowitz said.

"I know that Sheriff Holt McDowell wants to see the offenders apprehended but it is not helpful that the report by his chief deputy at Bessemer would seem to condone or approve what occurred.

"Apparently the greater portion of the efforts of the investigators was devoted to conducting an election a la Czecho-Slovakia in which everyone voted 'ja'."

The News

MR. BERKOWITZ SAID he also was not impressed by the disclaimer of the Federated Ku Klux Klan, Inc., that it did not participate in the incident as an organization."

Dr. E. P. Pruitt, president of the Klan, yesterday denied that the organization took an official part in the raid.

Mr. Berkowitz pointed out that "no denial was made apparently that members (of Dr. Pruitt's organization) took part in the raids.

"Furthermore, the quoted statements of the officers (of the Klan) seem to indicate they approve of what occurred.

"Communists often operate under a false front. So do Kluxers —a plague on both their houses."

Birmingham, Ala

A STATEMENT WAS EXPECTED shortly from Atty. Gen. A. A. Carmichael on Atty. Berkowitz's request that litigation be started to revoke the Klan's charter. Fri

Whether the City of Birmingham will seek new laws to drive the Klan's headquarters out of Birmingham will not be known until Mayor Cooner Green returns to the city. 6-25-48

On Mayor Green's desk today was a letter from City Atty. J. H. Willis commenting on eight suggested ordinances that would presumably make it illegal for the Klan to operate in the city.

The three city commissioners have made no comment thus far on the proposed ordinances drawn up by Atty. Berkowitz.

Klan Warns Ala. Negroes

The Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

PHENIX CITY, Ala.—The South's new wing of the Ku Klux Klan, led by World War II veterans into this vice-ridden city, burned a fiery cross in warning to Negro citizens to stay in their place. Sat.

Phenix City is the target of vote fraud charges leveled by Gessener T. McCorvey, chairman of the Alabama Democratic Executive Committee, who was defeated for delegate-at-large in the June 1 runoff primary. 7-10-48

Ten robed men, identifying themselves as members of the original Southern Klan, chartered June 29, lit a 35-foot, oil-soaked cross on Ku Klux hill here Saturday night, July 3. An estimated 500 witnessed the ceremony in which the Kluxers mixed Klanism with Christianity.

Twenty-three-year-old Alton F. Pate, war veterans adjutant, explained to the onlookers that his outfit was a split from the Association of Georgia Klans. Unmasked but robed, one of the Klansmen prayed at the ceremony, claiming, "With the living Christ, a Klansman is a criterion of character."

The Klansman said, "All we ask is that the Negro stay in his place, which he is going to do as long as there is a Klan."

Although more Negroes live in Russell County than whites, they are denied the ballot through intimidation.

Anti-Klan Move Spurred By Plea For Federal Aid

The News
Birmingham, Ala.

National Scout Director Asks Atty. Gen. Clark To Investigate Raid Of Camp By Hooded Gang

News 6-17-48

Request for a federal investigation today spurred the mounting protests against the "invasion" last week of a Negro Girl Scout camp near Bessemer by a band of hooded, robed men.

Mrs. Paul Rittenhouse, New York City, national director of Girl Scouts, Inc., asked U. S. Atty. Gen. Tom Clark that "if possible, members of the masked and white-robed group be identified and brought to justice."

Mrs. Rittenhouse requested the investigation be made on the grounds of unlawful entry and search. He said 12 white-robed and masked men entered Camp Pauline Bray Fletcher, seven miles southeast of Bessemer, last Thursday night while 100 other men waited nearby.

The Girl Scout leader charged the men searched the tent and belongings of two white instructors from the national Scout office who were training Negro women as Girl Scout leaders.

The News

THE TWO WHITE INSTRUCTORS, Mrs. Rittenhouse said in a letter to the attorney general, were told by the men that they must leave the camp within 24 hours because "folks around here don't like Negroes and whites living together."

The white women, Miss Elizabeth Ijams and Miss Katrine Nickel, were housed 100 yards from the Negroes' quarters, "in accordance with Alabama statutes," Mrs. Rittenhouse said. 6-17-48

Col. John D. Hill, U. S. district attorney here, previously had stated "no federal question" was involved in the disturbance, while spokesmen for the Federal Bureau of Investigation here said they had "no comment on the case." Hours. 6-19-48

In a letter to the editor of The News today, Abe Berkowitz, Birmingham attorney who is seeking revocation of the charter of the Federated Ku Klu Klan, Inc., said he believed no federal statutes have been violated.

In the meantime, however, Gov. James E. Folsom has entered the case with a request to Howard Sullinger, circuit solicitor at Bessemer, for a full report on the incident.

The governor also expected to confer with State Atty. Gen. A. A. Carmichael at Gulf Shores today to map a course of action. The governor described the incident as "very, very unfortunate."

IN A LETTER to The News today, Sam Hall, chairman of the Alabama Communist Party, said that party "joins in protest against the revival of Ku Klux Klanism in Jefferson County." The News

"This move by the Klan," Hall said, "follows on the heels of the Sheriff McDowell, if he was correctly quoted in this newspaper, that 'it is going to take more than one incident of this kind for us to find anything.' Holt McDowell is one of our most fearless and respected law enforcement officers—deservedly so. I know that he is not intimidated by the Klan, nor does he approve of its activities. However, if we wait until the next incident, it may well be of a more serious nature. In fairness to Mr. McDowell, it is not his duty to initiate the steps necessary to revoke the charter of the Klan. I am confident that, when he is charged with the duty of executing and enforcing the decrees and orders that may be obtained in proper proceedings, he will do that part of his job vigorously and fearlessly, as he has always done. News 6-11-48

violent anti-Negro campaigning in the recent Democratic Party primaries. Birmingham, Ala.

"We are confident the decent people of this community are unitedly against Ku Kluxism whether it's in white hoods, political office or police uniform." Hours.

* * *

ATTY. BEKOWITZ has suggested eight ordinances be adopted by the city of Birmingham to drive the Klan's headquarters and offices out of the city. 6-17-48

City Atty. J. H. Willis said the "substance" of two of the eight suggested ordinances "would be valid and probably would be effective."

* * *

THE TWO SUGGESTED ordinances would make it unlawful for anyone to wear "any cap, visor, hood, mask or other garment which shall obscure or conceal the identity of such person" while he is on a public street or riding a vehicle on a public street within Birmingham or its police jurisdiction.

City Atty. Willis said he felt there were some "technical and practical objections" to the other six proposed ordinances.

REVIEWING THE case, Atty. Berkowitz wrote the editor of The News as follows:

"The letter I wrote you on June 12th re the Ku Klux Klan brought personal publicity I did not seek. However unwelcome that part of the matter may be, it will not deter me from continuing my efforts to put an end to the activity of these lawless mobs. Experience proves that only the pitiless light of continued exposure can have the necessary effect upon the type of cowards who prowl at night, their identity concealed not only from their victims, but their fellow conspirators. The News

"Several developments in this matter deserve mention.

"First: It is most regrettable that the Girl Scout Council, so concerned for the safety of its campers and so lacking assurance for their adequate protection in the future, found it necessary to abandon the camp project for the Summer. Though I can fully appreciate the considerations which impelled their action, it concerns me that they have found it necessary to yield to the superior force of these bullies. The result is that this gang has succeeded in accomplishing what it set out to do. Birmingham, Ala.

"Second: I cannot agree with

Klan Warns Ala. Negroes

The Courier

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Chief Denies Klan Took Part In Raid On Negro Camp

The Ledger
Columbia, S. C.
Sunday 6-27-48

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., June 24—(AP)—The president of the federated Ku Klux Klan, Inc., says his organization took no official part in a nighttime raid on a Negro girl Scout camp near Bessemer, Ala.

E. P. Pruitt, Birmingham, issued a statement last night in which he said:

"I categorically deny that the federated Ku Klux Klan, Inc., as an organization incorporated under the law of the state of Alabama had any part in the incident at Camp Pauline Bray Fletcher or any similar incident." News

The klan official said members of his organization are not supposed to engage in any activity without his permission. He added that he gave no orders "to visit that camp." 6-24-48

Pruitt said he doesn't "approve of mob violence."

"Still," he added, "if I saw a mad dog or a snake, I would shoot it. And some people act like mad dogs and snakes."

Wallace Sticker Brings Student Trouble; KKK Signed Note Is Found

The Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.
4-12-48

LIVINGSTON, ALA.—(AP)—A Livingston State Teachers College student said Saturday a "Wallace for president" sticker on the windshield of his automobile resulted in the smashing of the windshield.

The student, S. J. (Sam) Messina, of Boston, entered Livingston last December.

He said he found the windshield smashed this morning and a typewritten note on the seat signed "a faithful member of the KKK." 4-13-48

Messina said the note read:

"Some of us Southern gentlemen had to go up North during the war and we had to live the way you damn Yankees live.

"But now the tables have changed and you are down South with us Southern gentlemen. And we expect you to live the way we Rebels live.

"Since this unfortunate event has occurred, we are forced, we beg of you, to act as we Southern gentlemen, or leave this section of the South at the earliest possible date." The Advertiser

The student, a veteran, said he did not report the incident to police. Montgomery, Ala.

"I regret the unfortunate incident," he said, "especially in view of the kindness and hospitality shown me by the student body and the townspeople." News

President W. W. Hill was out of town and unavailable for comment. W. W. Brown, college treasurer, said he had heard reports of the incident but has not talked with the student as yet. 4-12-48

"It was not reported to the college," Brown said. "I plan to investigate it as soon as possible."

The Klan, Then And Now

Birmingham, Ala. News

To the Editor of The News-Age-Herald:

As an outside observer, I have noticed that the raid by about 100 hooded men on the sleeping quarters of two women near Birmingham is being condemned by a number of citizens, newspapers and ministers of the Gospel on one hand and commended as a good thing by other citizens, also that the president of the City Commission has given hooded men the green light.

I know nothing about the present day K. K. K., but I learned a great deal about the Klan organization that functioned in Walker County from 1922 to 1926. I know a number of men who joined the Klan during that period of time in Walker, and some of them were good, upright citizens, who joined it with the best of intentions. I was asked to join, and the Klan literature was appealing, but I said we didn't need an "invisible empire" to back up a republic, a secret police, in fact. I said I didn't like the idea of people receiving a "You Are Hereby Warned" notice.

Several ministers joined and I told one of them I didn't think he could advance the cause of Christianity by the spread of terrorism. The Klan was strong for Christianity. I predicted that it would cause hard feelings and even bloodshed among our people and it caused both.

The first flogging in Walker took place in Jasper. About 30 cars loaded with masked men went to a house occupied by two women, pushed the door open in violation of the Constitution of the U. S. and state of Alabama, carried the occupants out of town and flogged one and warned the other. Two boys, minors, followed the motorcade, and they were caught and flogged. One of them had just previously had an operation and the incision had to be sewed up again. People said it was not the work of the Klan. But we hadn't had a flogging until the K. K. K. organized. Other floggings took place in the county and the hardware men couldn't supply the demand for firearms. Men were shot on both sides, Klan and nonKlan. Birmingham, Ala.

It is a wise provision of the Creator that men's faces are different, so each man must be accountable for his acts, but accountability may be avoided by covering one's face. I would be opposed to deputy sheriffs wearing masks; why does a bank robber cover his face? He doesn't want to be accountable for his acts. He violates a rule of his Creator.

The K. K. K. of the 20's proclaimed their noble purposes, and no doubt a great many of them meant it, but those who were beaten (all whites) in this county didn't think well of their organization. Some of the victims might have been law violators; if so, that was individual lawlessness. The flogging was organized lawlessness, which was more dangerous to the state. Sun. 7-11-48

I notice an anonymous writer in The News, who says he is a preacher and a Klansman. He says: "In the event of a national crisis, the K. K. K. would be the first to respond." Does that indicate that it is something like an independent military force ready to act?

Jasper, Ala. W. W. GUNTER.

Fiery Cross Burned At Gadsden Mayor's Home; Joke, He Says

ANNISTON, Ala., Feb. 18—(AP)—The burning of a fiery cross opposite the apartment of Mayor E. D. Banks was listed as "malicious mischief" by police here today.

The cross was burned last night in a park on Quintard Avenue. It followed by several hours a heated City Commission meeting during which a citizens' group urged a further increase in pay for police and firemen.

Mayor E. D. Banks expressed the view it was "no more than a joke." He said he had guests last night and he knew nothing of the incident until it was over.

Capt. T. A. Cannon, of the detective department said he found remnants of the cross, but that the crossbar was missing. A note, crudely printed in red crayon on cheap ruled paper, said:

"E. D. you are finished. We have just begun."

The note was delivered to police by an unidentified couple who said they picked it up as the cross burned.

Capt. Cannon gave the "malicious mischief" description of the incident. He added that the Police Department would continue its inquiry.

Folsom Asked To Oust Klan

Anti-Nazi League Says Mayor Intimidated By Fiery Cross

Governor Folsom was called on Friday to use his power to institute quo warranto proceedings to revoke the corporate charter of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama.

The request was made by the "non-sectarian" Anti-Nazi League of New York in a telegram to the governor.

The governor conferred with his special legal adviser, Rep. Ira B. Thompson, on the matter but the results of their conference was not available.

Request that the Klan's charter be revoked was made "in view of Wednesday cross burning intended to intimidate Mayor E. D. Banks, of Anniston, and burning of other crosses to terrorize Alabama citizens same day in Gadsden . . ."

Only State

The telegram stated that since Georgia had wiped out the Klan's charter there last year, Alabama is the sole remaining state where KKK "enjoys protective cloak of legal incorporation as basis for nationwide organization."

It was stated in the message that the charter is filed in the Jefferson County courthouse in Birmingham as "Federated Ku Klux Klan" and that the charter grants the power to "establish lodges throughout the country."

It was suggested that the basis for revocation action could be "Klan interference with duly elected mayor of the corporate city of Anniston, subversion of Alabama and United States constitutions, conduct of activities not entitled to corporate sanction and misrepresentation of corporate purposes."

Aid Offered

The Anti-Nazi League offered to place at Governor Folsom's service its special investigator, Stetson Kennedy, who investigated the Klan for the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

In the telegram the League said that E. P. Pruitt, Birmingham, was listed in the charter as "imperial wizard;" William Hugh Morris, Birmingham, secretary-treasurer; Robert S. Gulledge, Birmingham, Kleagle (organizer), and Charles C. Wilder, attorney.

It was further stated that Kennedy stood ready to testify as an eye witness that Pruitt has "officially and publicly advocated abrogation and violation of the 14th, 15th (Negro suffrage) and 19th (women's suffrage) amendments to the constitution and encouraged organized discrimination against and denial of legal rights to Catholic, Negro, and Jewish citizens."

The entire services of the League, which "helped Georgia officials gather evidence in successful actions against the Columbians,' were offered to Governor Folsom.

The telegram was signed by James H. Sheldon, "administrative chairman," and Herman Hoffman, "chairman, board of directors," of the Anti-Nazi League.

HE CONSULTS AN EXPERT

Gov. Folsom last week was called upon to revoke the charter of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama.

The Advertiser's news story related:

"The governor conferred with his special legal adviser, Rep. Ira B. Thompson, on the matter. . . ."

It is good to see His Excellency consulting real honest-to-goodness experts in affairs of state. Mr. Thompson was one of the notorious members of the Ku Klux Klan in South Alabama.

Folsom Spares KKK

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.

Gov. James E. Folsom said he had not planned any action against the Ku Klux Klan charted in Alabama, which the Anti-Nazi League in New York requested him to revoke. Folsom said he had received a telegram from the Anti-Nazi League, but said he had no grounds on which to revoke the charter now.

KKK Burns Cross In Negro Neighborhood

GADSDEN, Ala. — (SNS) — The KKK's "cross of malice" burned in a Negro neighborhood for the seventh time here this year, Tuesday night, May 18.

While the Etowah County Branch of the NAACP was holding its weekly meeting at the Barnes Building, Sixth Avenue and Locost Street, a flaming cross burned in front of the home of K. J. Sullivan, 920 Avenue C. Mr. Sullivan, local business man and president of the local branch, it was reported. Mr. Sullivan was attending the NAACP meeting at the time. Eye - witnesses said that the "cross" was seen burning around 8:15 p. m., last Tuesday night, May 18.

It was learned that on May 14 Mr. Sullivan found eight notices pasted up on his house advising: "A. K. Sullivan, The KKK is watching you." The "stickers of hate" bore close resemblance to those reportedly received a year ago by Mrs. Barbara V. Durr, of Birmingham, who at the time was president of the Birmingham Branch of the NAACP.

Mr. Sullivan, interviewed here, said that he has lived at his present residence for 15 years, and estimated that the NAACP Branch had approximately 600 members. He added that the Branch was in the midst of a membership and vote defense campaign, but suggested no clues as to why a "cross" would be burned in front of his home.

It was observed that in each instance of the "cross-burnings" the police were first to discover them. But in no instance, it was said, were police ever able to find who placed the burning crosses.

Klan Launches Fresh Outrages As Democrats Attack Civil Rights

GADSDEN, Ala. — The current white supremacy anti-civil rights campaign of Democratic Party officials in Alabama is resulting in increasingly flagrant KKK actively in various part of the state. The most recent KKK demonstration occurred in the north Alabama industrial city of Gadsden, known for bitter anti-union attacks on rubber and steel workers in the late '30's.

A KKK cross, the seventh to be fired in Gadsden this year, was burned on May 18 in front of the home of Mr. K. J. Sullivan, local business man and president of the Gadsden NAACP branch.

Mr. Sullivan was attending a county meeting of the NAACP in a downtown building at the time the cross was set fire. Four days previous to the meeting Mr. Sullivan had found eight KKK notices pasted on his house, saying "Sullivan, the KKK is watching you." Similar notices were received about a year ago by Mrs. Barbara Durr, who was at that time president of the NAACP in Birmingham.

The Etowah County NAACP has been in the midst of a membership drive and a vote defense campaign among the 600 members already working in the Gadsden branch.

Mr. Sullivan has lived at his present residence for over 15 years.

Though the local police, as usual, were the first to discover the cross, at no time during the year has any successful effort been made by local authorities to identify the KKK cross-burners.

Governor Folsom, who recently issued a statement about the necessity for investigation of subversive activities in Alabama, has ample evidence in this case and in numerout others throughout the state to warrant a serious inquiry into increased KKK demonstrations.

The governor, who claims to be responsive to the people back home, should hear from the citizens of Gadsden.

KLAN FOE RECEIVES ANONYMOUS THREAT

(The Associated Press)

Birmingham, Ala., June 20.—Abe Berkowitz, Birmingham attorney, who earlier in the week asked State Atty. Gen. Albert A. Carmichael to revoke the Alabama charter of the Federated Ku Klux Klan, Inc., said today his life had been threatened.

The threat was made by an anonymous telephone caller, Berkowitz said. The attorney said he had reported the threat to Public Safety Commissioner Eugene Connor.

In addition to demanding that the Klan charter be revoked by the state, Berkowitz suggested that the city adopt eight ordinances to curb activities of secret organizations.

"The caller advised me that if the city adopted any of the ordinances suggested by me I would be 'bumped off,'" Berkowitz said.

The attorney's revocation request followed the invasion of a Negro Girl Scout camp near Bessemer, Ala., of a group of robed and hooded men who demanded that two white women instructors "leave town."

20 Negro Trainees Are Cited

The Constitution

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., June 11—(UP)—A Girl Scout official revealed Friday night that a band of white-robed, hooded men had warned two white girls to leave a camp in which they were instructing a score of Negro Girl Scout leaders. Atlanta, Ga.

The girls reported that the men looked like Ku Klux Klansmen, said Mrs. L. E. Geohegan, a member of the Birmingham Girl Scout Council. Mrs. Geohegan complained to authorities Friday.

She said that two white girls, from Memphis, Tenn., were in charge of a "leadership training" unit at Camp Pauline Bray Fletcher, south of Bessemer, Ala., and that about 20 Negro girls from five Southern States were there. They had separate sleeping and eating facilities. Sat.

Late Thursday night, Mrs. Geohegan said, "eight or 10" men in white robes and hoods, carrying flashlights, entered the girls' tent, wakened them, and questioned them about camp operations. They even went through their personal belongings, the council member said she had been told, and warned them to "get out by tomorrow night." 6-12-48

Mrs. Paul Rittenhouse, National Girl Scout Director, said in New York that the threatened girls were Miss Katrine Nickel, of Birmingham, and Miss Elizabeth Ijams, of Knoxville, Tenn., instructors on the Girl Scouts' national staff.

She said the intruders told them they were looking for "cards with a hammer and sickle on them."

The camp was ended in order to safeguard the lives and property of students and instructors, she said. She added that the Federal Bureau of Investigation was checking into the incident.

The camp was broken up Friday and the girls of both races returned to their homes.

The two girls reported that about 20 automobiles were parked outside the camp during the visit from the men, indicating that a large number took part in the "raid." The Negro girls, sleeping some distance away, were not aware of the visitation until the men had gone.

Mrs. Geohegan and Mrs. Florence Adams, of the Birmingham Community Chest, called on Dep. Sol. H. A. Sullinger, of Bessemer, for an investigation of the affair.

A full report was also made to Girl Scout headquarters. Sat.

There were originally three white girls at the camp, but the third, also from Memphis, was called home Thursday by illness in her family. 6-12-48

Sullinger promised an investigation to determine if any State laws had been broken.

Law And The Klan

The Birmingham City Commission appears of the opinion that no new ordinances are needed to cope with the Ku Klux Klan or other hooded and robed secret organizations in the city. Members of the commission are quoted as agreeing that there are sufficient laws on the statute books to take care of any situation that should develop involving the Klan. Birmingham Ala. Tues.

Some individuals do not accept this conclusion. But the City Commission and City Atty. J. H. Ellis present a reasonable case for their view. If the Klan presents further problems, the trouble will lie not so much with lack of laws as laxity of law enforcement. 6-29-48

* * *

In that connection, it is good to note that officials of the county and state are pushing investigations of the recent raid by a hooded and masked band on the Girl Scout camp near Bessemer. Three state officers have joined county authorities in looking into the matter. Sheriff Holt McDowell also has asked help from federal authorities. And the sheriff declared that the investigation will continue "night and day" until the case is solved. The News

This emphasis is pleasing to the public which does not accept as unsolvable a raid participated in by an estimated hundred men. The business at hand is to bring to justice the members of the mob who thought themselves superior to the law. Birmingham, Ala.

It is strange that the state attorney general, A. A. Carmichael, so far has been silent in the case. No prolonged study should be necessary before the highest law enforcement officer in the state could come out with a ringing condemnation of the outrage. One does not need to study law books or hold conferences to know that an invasion by masked men of the private sleeping quarters of white Girl Scout instructors is contrary to decency and a menace to orderly, legal government. Tues.

Almost as disturbing as the original crime is the apparent apathy of some officials toward the crime. 6-29-48

Kluxism Not Needed

The News Birmingham Ala. Thurs. 6-24-48

To the Editor of The News:

Your editorial in Sunday's edition, discussing that outrageous episode at the Negro Girl Scout Camp near Bessemer, contains sentiments which should have the support of all right thinking people everywhere.

As you say, "Responsible law enforcement officials should do their utmost to get at the bottom of this revolting incident and punish the guilty." This will be very difficult, however, unless and until law enforcement officials do like the two scout instructors involved—become "more mad than scared." Some officials seem to be afraid of Ku Kluxism and others seem to be identified with it, or at least tainted and controlled with and by the racial bigotry and narrow, ignorant ideology of its Hitleristic philosophy.

The Ku Klux Klan, of course, will swear by all good and bad that it had no part in that ugly outrage, but it preaches that kind of doctrine, and history shows it has been caught pursuing that kind of policy. But whether this crime against democracy and civilization was perpetrated by the Klan, the fact remains that some kind of organization just as bad, and sporting its "angelic" regalia, sponsored the Hitleristic activity and deliberately pushed Klan policy into actual practice.

We do not need a revival of such activities in our state. We had enough of them about 20 years ago.

Therefore, Mr. Editor, as you said again, "All the forces of law and decency and enlightened public opinion should be directed toward the condemnation and elimination of of such influences and action."

W. C. BRAXTON.

822 Wilmer Avenue, Anniston, Ala.

Disband The Klan

The News

To the Editor of The News:

I wish to register my thorough disgust at the actions of those 100 "hooded hoodlums" who recently threatened the safety of two women in this area.

The manner of attire, the means of conveyance, and the menacing approach to the women by this band leaves no doubt that it was organized and briefed for its dastardly work. Birmingham, Ala.

The people of Birmingham want no further evidence that irresponsible bands of men who would take the law in their own hands do exist and operate. The overwhelming majority of decent people in this city want the charters of the Ku Klux Klan and similar destructive organizations revoked at once. Tue.

Must we wait until other residents of this city are threatened, or suffer bodily harm?

7-9-48 GASTON I. KIMERLING.

3809 South 12th Court.

Trampling Our Rights

The News Birmingham Ala.

To the Editor of The News:

Since The News departed from its rule against publishing anonymous letters, and as the reason for so doing obviously was to shed light on an organization now under attack by most civic and patriotic organizations within the state, and as the letter headed "Proud But Unidentified" and signed "Klansman" is characteristic of the passionate love members of the Klan have for anonymity, the reasons therefor should be made clear. They were hinted at in Mr. Unknown's letter "There is no church or lodge or any organization that puts its members through any cleaner and rigid examination than said order of Federated K. K. K." Tue. 7-7-48

Up to now every letter published that criticized the Klan was written by people with "intestinal fortitude" enough to name themselves. But let's skip the personalities. It is an organization that's under discussion. It is one, the existence of which, depends on secrecy and anonymity, and no thoroughly indoctrinated member thereof is liable to expose his identity in anyway, shape or form; you can bet your bottom dollar on that.

How come? The big mistake made back in the 20s was that the organizers then put their reliance in numerical strength. Consequently every Tom, Dick and Harry an organizer could lay hands on was brought into the organization. Too many were of the obstreperous type who took matters into their own hands and they "rode high wide and handsome." The level headed were soon forced to either go along, get out, or stay on wishfully in hopes the worst would not happen. It did, and public sentiment got up on its hind legs and stamped it out.

No! This time it would be reorganized into a compact, select group that could be depended on to stick. Absolute secrecy and anonymity was to be "a must," but like all man's best laid plans, this also has its weaknesses and for this reason there is not a single thing about the inside of a Klan that cannot be duplicated, from regalia to passwords, oath, ritual, etc.

In this day and time, a Klan like any other organization can be infiltrated and of this we have had ample evidence.

The plain fact of the matter is that the membership knows that any untoward "direct action" such as that taken by those who invaded the Girl Scout camp near Bessemer, violated the constitutional rights of both the scout organization and that of the two women domiciled in the tent they entered and searched. By so doing, it usurped both power and authority that the constitution prohibits, all law enforcement officers from exercising "without due process." The News

The constitution protects these men in their right to belong to their secret organization where they can indulge in all the mummery they please, but it prohibits them and their very secret organization from trampling on the rights of others, just as it does "the law," and individuals. They need not squawk if the heat is turned on by an aroused public that knows what it is all about. This is about the constitutional rights, privileges and immunities of all, that the public must stick up for and allow no organization to trample up on, as has been done by a hooded mob of men wearing regalia. Birmingham Ala.

The Klansman's oath of allegiance to his organization is the thing. Neither he nor any other man can serve two masters, whoever vows allegiance to an organization representing his particular class, race or religious interests, comes into direct conflict with our Federal Constitution, that guarantees equal rights to all, regardless.

7-9-48 BEN J. COUCHMAN.

Akron, Ala.

Leader Denies Klan Raid On Negro Girl Scout Camp

(AP).—E. P. Pruitt, of Birmingham, president of the Federated Ku-Klux Klan, Inc., said in a statement last night that his organization took no official part in a night-

Negro Girl Scout camp near Bessemer, Ala., on June 10.

Chief Deputy Sheriff Clyde Morris said in a report earlier this week that residents of the area

Federated Ku-Klux Klan, Inc., as an organization under the law of the

dent at Camp Fletcher or any similar incident."

BIRMINGHAM, (Ala., June 24

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Kluxers Frown on Sunday Beer Drinking

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Ku Klux Klansmen, hating violently any real concept of brotherhood, joined a Sunday evening service congregation of the Church of God in Pinson, Alabama. As the approximately 15 Kluxers walked into the church, the Rev. Ira L. Pope asked the congregation to shift around their seating so that the group of men could sit together.

After participating in singing **The Old Rugged Cross,** which they had requested, the hooded men took up a collection. The leader of the group said a few words to the pastor as he handed him the contribution and the men left.

A spokesman for the Klan said that the group visited that church because some of the members of the church were allegedly patronizing a nearby "beer joint" before they went on to services.

This brazen public demonstration with pretense of "high morality" is nothing new with the Klan. For many years Klansmen have appointed themselves as do-gooders who must force "bad people" to do "good." This, in addition to their long record of intimidation and terrorization and outright boasts of floggings, beatings and murder.

Ban May Follow Cross-Burning

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Despite two fiery crosses burned here Monday night by a band of hooded members of the Ku Klux Klan, voters in Macon County turned out in full strength at the polls here Tuesday.

One of the crosses was burned in the city square and the other at Green Forks on the Tuskegee Montgomery highway. The Klansmen used five automobiles and one truck, two of the cars bearing Macon County licenses.

The Mayor and City Council issued a statement deploring the demonstration, pointing out that it "took place without our knowledge or consent." Other organizations and individuals quitely joined in condeming the incident, pointing to the "amicable relations" here.

Say Act Had "Sanction"

There are approximately 23,000 colored persons in Macon County, the number including several hundred well-paid professionals employed at Tuskegee Institute and at the U.S. Veterans' Hospital.

These people believe that Monday night's cross-burning could not have taken place without the approval or sanction of city and county law enforcement officers and there has been recurring talk of conducting a boycott of white businesses operating in the Tuskegee community.

Blame "Outsiders"

As late as Monday of this week, no attempt had been made to bring any of the guilty parties to justice despite the fact that auto license plates were plainly visible.

The usual practice is to blame such demonstrations upon "outsiders." This is the second time the KKK has paraded at Tuskegee. The first time was when the Veterans's Hospital was opened with all-colored personnel.

Alabama Press

The Governor Scores Again

(From The Sylacauga News)

The tempo of his appeal to citizens, other than extremists and those enthralled by string band music, has been stepped up noticeably of late by Gov. Folsom. His deliberate withdrawal from the limelight of ludicrous publicity has given him a dignity conspicuous by its absence during the early days of his administration, and his more recent appeal to the state electors that they put aside personal prejudices and political ambitions in favor of unanimity now that Mr. Truman has been reelected, also appeals to a majority of the people.

Even more so than this, however, is the governor's unexpected scathing denunciation of the Ku Klux Klan, of which he says in part:

"They should play their cards face up on the table. . . . As it is we don't know whether they are outlaws, Communists, Chinamen or Indians.

"We don't know to what faith or creeds they are loyal. Every group, no matter what it calls itself, should stand out in the open and not conceal itself behind cloaks and hoods."

The governor has spoken the thoughts of every law-abiding citizen in Alabama.

Klan Flaunts Might To Frighten Voters

By Sylvia Hall

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Ku Klux Klan activity, breaking out throughout the State of Alabama the night before elections as a means of intimidating Negro voters, continues now as an attempt to threaten those who would urge for Civil Rights legislation.

In Tuskegee, a black belt county seat where Negroes constitute a four to one majority, two crosses burned on Monday night. One cross was burned preceding a parade in front of the Court House. The motorcade of Klansmen drove to an intersection leading to Tuskegee Institute and burned another. Reports vary that there were from 30 to 200 hodded men.

Another rag-wrapped cross was burned near a Negro business section in Gadsden, Alabama.

A printed pamphlet, discussing radical issues and signed by a Birmingham KKK organization, was circulated throughout the city of Gadsden.

The Klan has become quite bold in putting up signs advertising their organization in many small towns in the Black Belt area.

The night after elections a seven-foot wooden cross was burned on the campus of the University of Alabama. Officials of the university whitewashed this by calling it a student "prank."

Thursday night the KKK held a demonstration and initiation in an open field on a highway a few miles outside of Birmingham.

Two thousand spectators watched as 200 hooded men intoned the initiation rites and 100 initiates answered the oaths that would bring them into the organization.

The rites, lasting over an hour, were well staged. Floodlights were strung on poles giving light to the ceremony. Power lines were strung throughout the field so that the multi-bulbed electrical crosses and ceremonial tables were well lighted.

Alabama Highway Patrolmen, Sheriff's deputies and uniformed policemen assisted in directing traffic as the cars began to pile up and park near the highway.

KLANSMEN ATTEND CHURCH—The congregation of Massey Line Church of God, near Birmingham, was surprised last night when 75 robed Klansmen walked into their midst. A Klan spokesman said the action was taken to frighten patrons of a nearby beer joint who had tried to "disturb the peace."

Birmingham News

An Ally Of The Klan

To the Editor of The News:

I am of the opinion that in this country a man or group of men are innocent until proved guilty. This opinion doesn't seem to be the one held by your paper, nor the people who write in letters for publication. According to your editorials and the letters, the K. K. K. is guilty of the crime of raiding a Girl Scout camp. Where did this information come from that the law enforcement officers haven't been able to learn the same? I suppose the writers and your paper have a private source of information. It is my advice to you to turn all of your evidence over to the law officers. I agree that the Klan should be punished if it participates in things of that nature, but until proof is presented, I will continue to be an ally of the Klan.

Why does everyone wish to place the guilt on the Klan? Because there must be a fall guy somewhere and the Klan happens to be the most convenient one. We have segregation laws in the South. They should be respected by the white and colored population until they are repealed.

Wed. 7-7-48

There appears to be much thought put forth on the racial problem. I am of the opinion that the only racial problem that confronts the people of the South is the establishing of better housing, hospitals and more and better schools for the colored. I'm sure the colored man would be satisfied to have all of these. The Negro shouldn't want to intermarry, and I don't believe that they do. Until we furnish the above facilities we will continue to have cause for worry about the colored population. Give them the rights granted under the constitution and the problem will solve itself. Since we don't permit the Negro in our state-owned schools we should and must prepare a school of equal competence for them.

Birm. Ala

Don't place the guilt on the K. K. K. for every unpleasant event that occurs in the South. If a minister of the gospel goes to bat for the organization there must be a very fine moral background to the organization. Yours for a progressive South.

ERNEST C. SNYDER.
3930 Mercier Street, Kansas City 2, Mo.

The Klan Parades Again

The News

Hooded paraders in Talladega's streets, whose route included the Negro section of the city, and the burning of a huge cross by a large group of masked, white-robed men were not needed to show that the Ku Klux Klan again is active in Alabama, but the demonstration should heighten concern about the serious problem thus underscored.

Wed. 8-25-48

Surely such exhibitions are deeply disturbing. How widespread and strong the present resurgence of this misguided and ignoble movement is not clearly evident—secrecy and concealment still marking its tactics—but enough is plainly evident to call for an active public sentiment against such manifestations and in protection of human rights.

Birm. Ala

What good purposes can be served by masked, hooded men? What possible excuse can there be for the employment of such tactics of intimidation and demonstration? Obviously they are intended to exert a pressure of fear which is profoundly out of keeping with the basic American spirit.

* * *

This demonstration raises anew, of course, the question of why such activities should be permitted under the law. A long history testifies to the dangers and abuses inherent in such proceedings. The pictures of the hooded men in *The News* yesterday must have revolted vast numbers of Alabamians who see no justification for such proceedings. That they could advance the cause of law and order, the development of sound racial relations and the solution of pressing public problems is inconceivable. That they involve deep perils is unmistakable.

The aroused sentiment of law-respecting, justice-loving citizens is a fundamental defense against the growth of such activities. But at the same time the utmost endeavors should be made under the law to protect all the people from the dangers now made so conspicuously evident.

Wed. 8-25-48

Indications at Talladega were strong that this gathering included representatives from outside areas, some from beyond the state. Thus considered, it may not be regarded as indicative of a strong and extensive revival of Klan sentiment. But this distressing and disturbing event is enough to awaken all our people who despise such ways of action to sound measures of vigilant protection for tolerance, justice and constructive human relations in each community of this state and region.

Brighton Residents See Klan Parade

Birmingham News

A parade of an estimated 40 to 50 autos containing Ku Klux Klan members dressed in their white robes, masks and hoods paraded through the city of Brighton in the Bessemer area last night.

Brighton residents said the Klan procession passed along the downtown Brighton area then turned off into Jaybird Road, just beyond Brighton, leading to some Negro quarters in that area.

Birm. Ala 12-23-48

The residents said they were attracted to the procession by the blowing of horns on the autos. Otherwise, they said, the parade was orderly.

No crosses were burned in the area, according to several Brighton residents.

Birm. Ala 12-23-48

The Bessemer sheriff's office said it had received no report of the incident while Bessemer police said they heard the group had merely passed through Brighton.

The Jaybird Road passes through the edge of Brighton and connects with Rutledge Springs, just beyond Fairfield on the old highway between Bessemer and Fairfield.

Atlanta Constitution
Page 7 Col. 4 Sunday Dec. 19-48

Doesn't Halt Klan

BIRMINGHAM—(ANP) --Gil Sanford, columnist in Folsum's Forum, organ of Gov. Jim Folsom of Alabama, lambasted local and state officials Thursday and scored them for failure to take action against the Ku Klux Klan. Sanford said Folsom promised privately last January to revoke the Klan chapter if it started acting up.

Pointing to an incident which occurred recently when a band of hooded and robed men visited a girl scout camp near Bessemer and warned two young white woman who were instructing the Negro girls to leave town, Sanford said, "nobody was harmed but the lady called justice." The klan has done many equally contemptible things, he said.

Associated Press Wirephoto

KLAN PLAYS SANTA TO EX-SLAVE—Jack Riddle, 107-year-old former slave, and his 86-year-old wife, Josey, receive a radio as an unexpected gift from the Ku Klux Klan in Talladega, Ala. Riddle had expressed a wish for a radio so he could "hear the preachers."

Klan Gift to Alabama Negro Proves Its Fairness---Green

The Ku Klux Klan's gift of a radio to a 107-year-old former Negro slave in Talladega, Ala., so he can "hear the preachers," was hailed by Grand Dragon Samuel Green as an illustration that the Klan "doesn't hate Negroes."

Dr. Green, informed by newsmen of the incident, said he had not received an official Klan report yet, but "apparently the local Klan" in Talladega had made the presentation of their own accord.

Jack Riddle, the ex-slave, said on his 107th birthday recently that he missed hearing sermons because he was too old to attend church. Several car loads of Klansmen drove to Riddle's cabin Tuesday night. One was dressed as Santa Claus. He called "Uncle Jack" and his 86-year-old wife to the porch and presented the radio.

"The Klan believes in white supremacy and segregation," Dr. Green commented. "The Klan also believes in treating Negroes fairly and honestly."

know whether they are outlaws, communists, Chinamen or Indians.

"We don't know, to what faith and creeds they are loyal. Every group, no matter what it calls itself, should stand out in the open and not conceal itself behind cloaks and hoods."

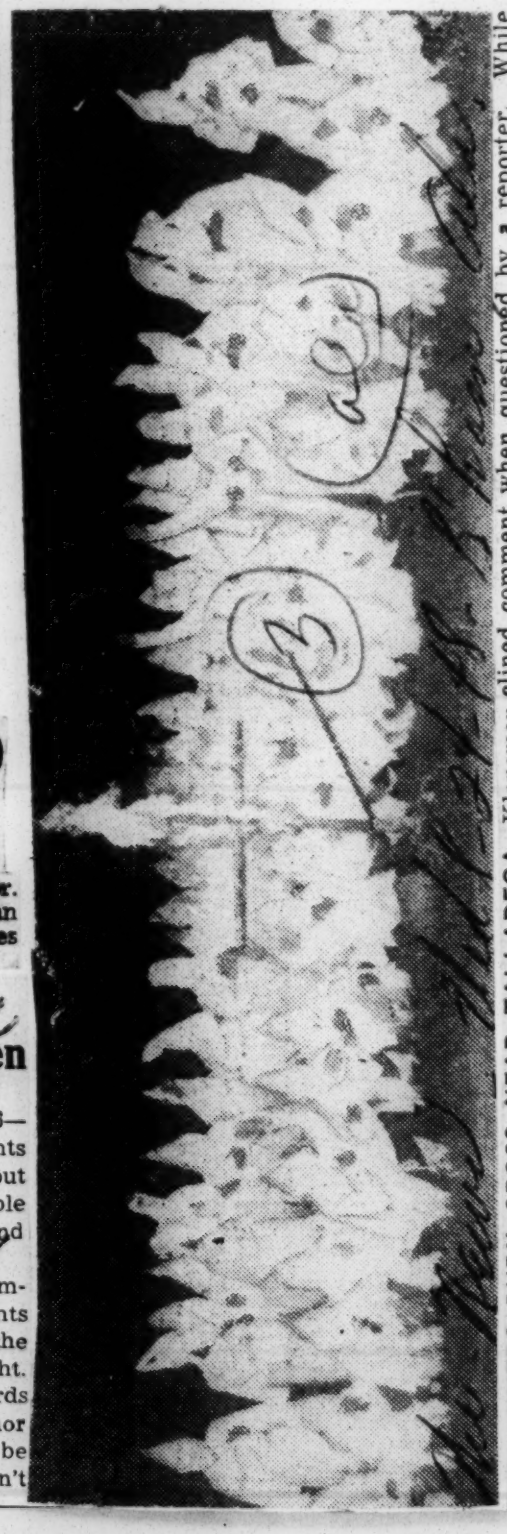
The governor said he ordered Atty-Gen. Albert Carmichael last summer to look into Klan activities in Alabama and take legal action if any cases where the law is violated.

Folsom Urges Klan To Come Out In Open

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Nov. 6—(AP)—Gov. James E. Folsom wants the Ku Klux Klan to "come out in the open" and tell the people "who you are and what you stand for."

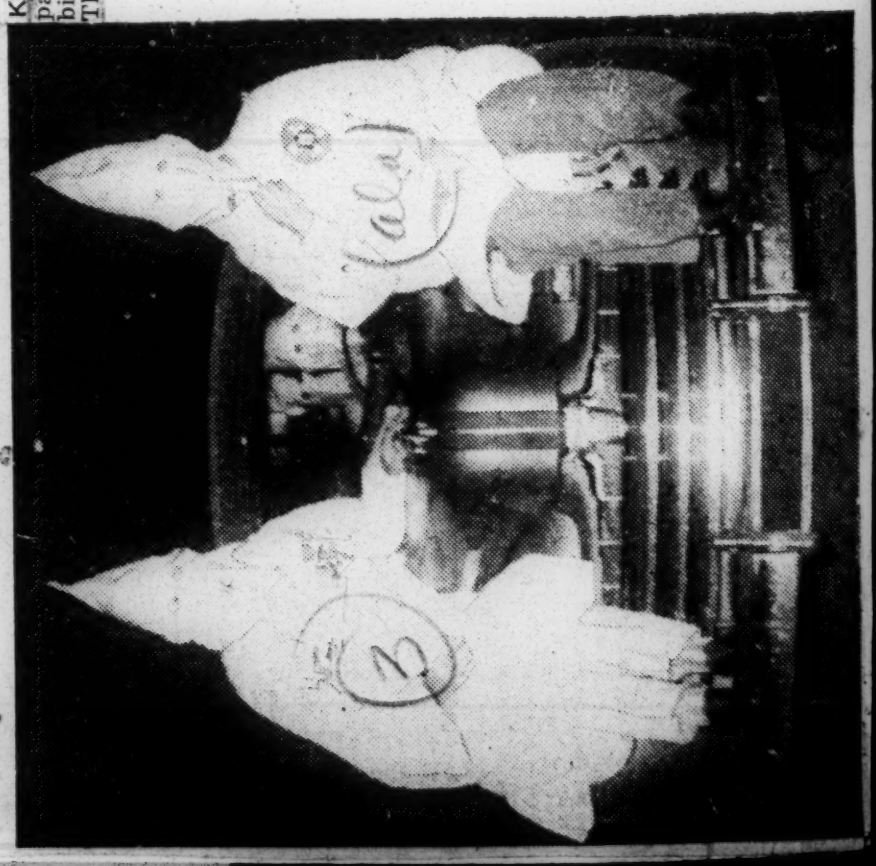
That's what he said today commenting on newspaper accounts of an initiation ceremony of the order at Bessemer Thursday night.

"They should play their cards face up on the table," the governor said. "That's the way it should be in a democracy. As it is we don't



KU KLUXERS BURN CROSS NEAR TALLADEGA—Klansmen, clined comment when questioned by a reporter. While the cross believed to be from several states, are shown (above) near Talla-burning was going dega burning a cross in the "naturalization" of new members. The of Talladega. Th ceremony was held last night at the Brecon-Talladega road junction, stration. Law e about a mile and a half from Talladega. Leaders of the group de-derly and made

Klan Parades In Talladega



K. K. K. PARADE—The car (above) is like one of many which paraded through the streets of Talladega last night in an apparent big-time Ku Klux celebration. Hundreds of spectators looked on. The procession circled through the Negro section of the town.

Klan Official Offers Help In Probe Of Hooded Group

Montgomery Ala.

BESSEMER, ALA.— (AP) —A three-fold investigation, including one by a Ku Klux Klan official, was promised Saturday, after two white women instructors reported they were ordered to leave a Negro Girl Scouts camp by a band of hooded men.

The women, Miss Katrine Nickel, 39, Birmingham, and Miss Elizabeth Ijams, 39, Knoxville, Tenn., said the men ordered them to "get out in 24 hours."

Circuit Solicitor Howard Sulliger said he was informed an estimated 100 men wearing robes and hoods entered the camp about 11 p.m., Thursday.

Search Reported

The two women said six or eight men entered the tent in which they were sleeping, and searched their baggage and luggage. They quoted a spokesman for the intruders as saying it was "not proper" for white women to be sleeping in a camp with Negro women.

Miss Nickel said she had reported the incident to the Federal Bureau of Investigation but had not requested an investigation. She said that would be handled by the Girl Scout Memphis regional office or National Scout Headquarters at New York.

At New York, Scout headquarters said it probably would ask the FBI to investigate after receiving a written report of the incident.

The Birmingham FBI field office declined to comment.

Offers Help

William Hugh Morris, Birmingham, secretary-treasurer of Ku Klux Klan, Incorporated, an Alabama corporation, said he would "try to find out what happened."

"Those two women ought not to have been sleeping in that area," Morris said. "I'll check with the boys at Bessemer to see what went on."

Chief Deputy Sheriff Clyde Morris and Circuit Solicitor Howard Sulliger both said their offices would conduct an investigation.

Birmingham Girl Scout officials said the training course being conducted by Miss Nickel and Miss Iajams at the Negro camp had been cancelled. The session has been scheduled to end next Wednesday.

Instructions to close the camp were received from National headquarters, officials said.

Mrs. L. E. Geohegan, county Girl Scout commissioner, said about 21 young Negro women were attending the camp for instruction as camp directors for Negro Girl Scout units throughout the South.

She added that the white instructors lived in quarters 100 yards from those for the Negro women.

Mrs. eGohagen sai dthe county council "wanted to save the school but we had to consider the safety of those at the camp, the safety of the two white women, and the safety of the 21 Negro students."

Ala. Klansmen Riding Again

Birmingham Sat 10-23-48

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Suspected KKK members burned a cross in a colored section here Tuesday night and staged a motor parade in Lincoln, near Anniston, Monday night.

A three-foot cross was burned at East Thomas Tuesday night.

PARADE HELD

Officers J. G. Pope and E. F. Mitchell, who investigated the incident, said they could find no reason for the intended terror display.

Monday night a motor caravan of automobiles wearing Klan regalia included Lincoln and paraded silently through the streets. The motorcade circled through the district several times and then left, driving in the direction of Talladega.

License plates of the automobiles were blanked out, which was said to have made identification of tags impossible.

Klan Denies Raid On Scouts

The Birmingham News

Sat 10-23-48

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — E. P. Pruitt of this city, president of the Federated Ku Klux Klan, Inc., stated last week that he did not issue orders for a night raid on a colored Girl Scout camp and added that members of his organization are not supposed to engage in any activity without his permission.

A few weeks ago 10 white robed men raided a colored Girl Scout camp near Bessemer Ala., and ordered two white instructors leave within 24 hours.

Alabama Communists Demand Action on KKK

The Worker

BIRMINGHAM.—The Alabama Communist Party joined the protest against the revival of Ku Klux Klanism in Jefferson County. In a public statement by Sam Hill, state chairman, the Party attacked the hooded invasion of a nearby Girl Scout leader camp.

New York

"This move follows on the heels of the violent attack on Negro campaigning in the recent Democratic Party primaries. It comes as Negro citizens of Birmingham are protesting against police killing of Negroes. It follows closely the disgraceful police actions during the recent meeting here of the Southern Negro Youth Congress. It falls into a vicious pattern.

"It is significant that Police Commissioner Eugene Connor dismissed the petitions of the organized Negro community aganist police brutality with a charge of 'communistic.'

"The Alabama Communist Party considers it an honor to be thus recognized as one of the forces in the community that is opposed to the shooting down of Negroes by the police.

SJO-7-4-48

"If Mr. Connor is under the illusion that only the relatively small Communist Party is opposed to police brutality, then he fails to note the rising opposition of all sections of the people to the Ku Klux Klan. We are confident that the decent people of this community are unitedly against Ku Kluxism whether it is in white hoods, political office or police uniform.

"The time has come for us to rid our Southland of the disgrace of KKK terrorism. This holdover from slavery is aimed at keeping our white and Negro peoples divided. What is needed is the fullest unity between white and Negro to build the kind of progressive South that all decent Southerners desire.'

Flays Burners Of Fiery Cross

The Decatur Daily

DECATUR, Ala. — The Decatur Daily, local white newspaper published in its editorial column this week a bitter attack upon an unidentified "hate group" responsible for the burning of two fiery crosses within two hours of each other Friday night near the Negro districts. The burnings are believed to have been an effort to intimidate Negro citizens who are demanding full balloting rights in the coming Democratic primary, and are preparing to take the issue into the federal court.

Decatur Ala

"The Daily has always opposed organizations which hide their membership under hoods—and always will", the editorial declared. 'It has always opposed organizations which seek to array class against class, religion against religion, and race against race — and always will."

The newspaper demanded that the police search out those responsible for the "hate group" tactics, and that those responsible be punished, "whether pranksters or a serious warning of resurgence of secret regalia organizations."

Birmingham News

Letter On Letters

To the Editor of The News:

Not long ago a raid was made on a Negro Girl Scout camp. Since then we've heard very little else in the Voice of the People column. Only one letter submitted contained much sense. It was from a lady in Bessemer. So many people pointed an accusing finger at the Ku Klux Klan. Why? Can these accusing people prove it? They haven't proved it yet. It seems to me that the very people who staged the raid intended for the blame to be put on the Klan. If so, our ignorant, narrow-minded people have played right into their hands. I've no doubt the whole episode was another political trick. It ties in with Mr. Truman's "civil rights" program, which is in itself, a very neat trick.

Wed. 7-7-48

It seems ours is a hapless lot. Airplanes, without which we would now be under Hitler's heel, disturb church services. Negroes are "Satisfied" and "Dissatisfied." Hooded men break up a little private party between two white women and their Negro subjects, which is more than anyone else had nerve enough to do.

So now what do we do? Argue, chew the fat, and generally make nuisances of ourselves.

If anyone can deny that two-thirds of the letters submitted to this column since the night of the raid have been purely nonsense, let him speak. I'm sure no one objects to a sound, reasoning opinion. They are useful, to say the least.

Let's have more of them, yes, but I, for one, can do without those people's opinion who only talk to hear themselves rattle.

Sipsey, Ala. ARLEY G. MANASCO.

'Drop That Sheet,' Herald Tribune Folsom Tells Klan

Gov. Folsom invited the Ku Klux Klan yesterday to "come out in the open" and "tell us who you are and what you stand for."

Commenting on newspaper reports of an initiation ceremony of the order at Bessemer Thursday night, he said:

"They should play their cards face up on the table. . . . As it is we don't know whether they are outlaws, Communists, Chinamen or Indians.

Montgomery Ala

"We don't know to what faith or creeds they are loyal. Every group, no matter what it calls itself, should stand out in the open and not conceal itself behind cloaks and hoods."

Folsom said he instructed Atty. Gen. Albert Carmichael last Summer to investigate Klan activities in Alabama and to take legal action in any case where there are violations of the law.

"If the Klan or any other organization doesn't want to operate that way in the open I suggest they watch their step and stay within the law," Folsom added.

Church-Klan 'Bama Visit Irks Newton

The Atlanta Constitution

Atlanta, Ga.

Dr. Louie D. Newton, Chairman of the Civics Committee of the Atlanta Christian Council and pastor of Druid Hills Baptist Church, yesterday issued a formal statement deploring reported attendance of robed and hooded Ku Klux Klansmen in an Alabama church.

The Atlanta minister commented as follows:

Thurs. 11-25-48

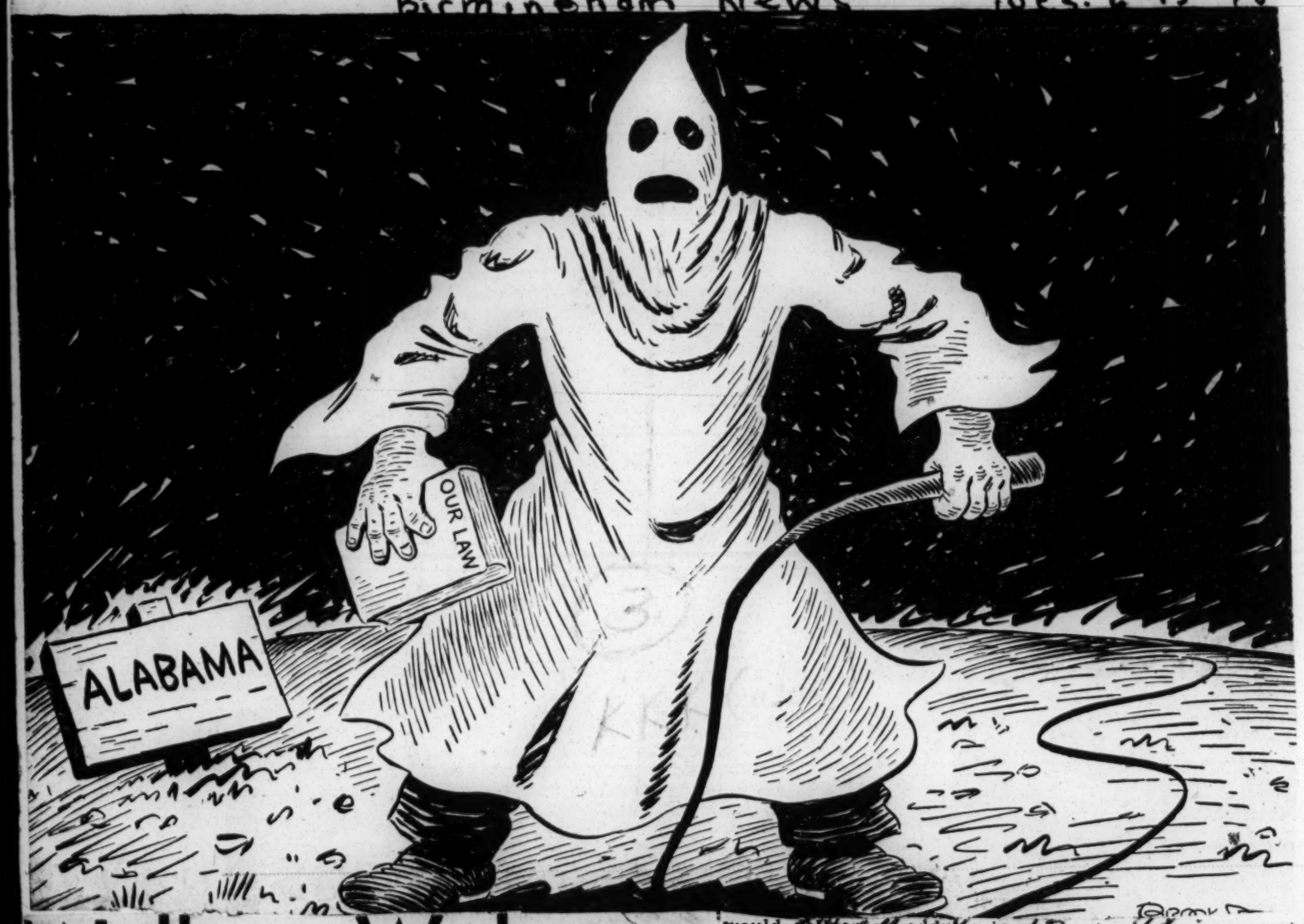
"An Associated Press news story reporting that 'about 75 robed and hooded Ku Kluxmen attended church services at the Massey Line Church of God near here' presents once again the disturbing fact that such a thing could happen in our beloved land. The fact that the minister appears to have known in advance that they were coming, that he is quoted as saying that the presence of these hooded guests would have a 'sobering influence,' and that he accepted a donation on behalf of the congregation does not lessen the sinister implications of this incident.

Thur 11-25-48

"It is, indeed, a sad commentary on the church and community when a band of hooded men or women can be welcomed to a worship service for the purpose of producing a 'sobering influence.' When the church of the Lord Jesus Christ has to depend upon hooded men with fiery crosses to produce order and provide financial support and comfort, we have come upon a time of confusion and darkness."

Is This To Be The Law?

Birmingham News Tues. 6-15-48



Wallace Welcome

Ku Kluk Klan Reported Planning To Stage Demonstration During Candidate's Visit Here

BY FRED TAYLOR

Grapevine has it that the Ku Klux Klan is planning some sort of special reception for Henry Wallace when he puts in an appearance here one week from today.

Nothing would please the Progressive Party presidential aspirant more than for the Klan to put on a demonstration against him. It would bolster his sadly sagging campaign, which has never gathered much force in Alabama. At the moment, it appears to be collapsing throughout the country.

One thing probably would delight Wallace more than for the Klan to whoop it up against him here. That would be for the police to toss him into the clink like they did his running mate, Sen. Glenn Taylor.

* * *

BOON—It would be a 10-strike for Wallace if the Klan did its stuff and the police incarcerated him for violating segregation laws here, if he does. His Communist and radical followers would use this to try to whip up new enthusiasm for his campaign.

TAYLOR

The Communist Daily Worker recently said that Wallace, in his swing through Alabama and six other Southern states, would defy what he termed the "criminal practice of Jim Crow" and speak only to mixed audiences of Negro and white citizens.

A local Wallace news release the other day announced Wallace would deliver an address in a downtown park (to be selected) the afternoon of Sept. 1. The third party standard-bearer is scheduled to arrive in Birmingham at 3:45 p.m. aboard a private Pullman that will be brought in by the L. & N. from Decatur.

Apparent plan is for Wallace to speak in a park where there are no seats and where his listeners, if there are whites and Negroes, would have a better chance to mix and mingle without police interference.

Crosses Burn At Tuskegee

TUSKEGEE, ALA., Nov. 2—(AP)—Two fiery crosses were burned here last night—one in the courthouse square by a group of hooded and robed men.

The other cross, said Editor Harold Fisher of the Tuskegee News, was burned near an intersection leading to Tuskegee Institute—famed Negro college.

Negroes outnumber white residents about four to one in Macon County, of which Tuskegee is the county seat.

Fisher said about 200 men were in the group which drove into the city in two cars about 9:30 p.m. After firing the first cross, they paraded about the square briefly and then drove to the road leading to the Negro school.

After burning the second cross, they departed without further incident, he said.

Fisher quoted witnesses as saying the hoded men had nothing to say to bystanders.

Mayor Frank H. Carr declined to comment on the incident.

Masked, They Burn Huge Cross, Drive In Negro Section

NEWS AND PICTURE STORY BY R. E. (BUSTER) HOGAN

TALLADEGA, Ala., Aug. 24—A silent group of hooded men paraded through this city for more than an hour last night. A mile and a half out, a still larger crowd, dressed in long, white robes, their faces hidden by masks, burned a huge cross. They were Ku Kluxers.

Police Chief Willis Dean, when asked to comment, said simply: "The parade was orderly."

Spectators lined the streets as the cars went by. Hooded men drove the cars and others sat beside them. At least two were perched on the front fenders of each car.

No one spoke. You could have heard a pin drop.

Deliberately or otherwise, the paraders guided their cars through the Negro section. The parade was made up of groups. One string of cars would come by. Soon another group would come.

* * *

BUT THE REAL SHOW was out on the highway, toward Anniston. Hundreds were there. They were at the crossroads in the "V" where the roads fork to Brecon and Talladega.

One large group stood silently by a flaming cross. Another group stood at a distance away. This correspondent approached the cross-burning in view of the hooded men. No one appeared to notice him.

Then he lay on his stomach and snapped a picture of the cross and the white-robed men. Several moved toward him, but said nothing. They apparently were only investigating the cause of the flash which occurred when the picture was snapped.

There was no apparent objection to the picture-taking.

* * *

THE REPORTER DROVE to the forks of the road where the cross was aflame and identified himself as a correspondent for The Birmingham News and gave his name. He asked the hooded men for a story. One who acted as spokesman said simply, "No comment. Goodbye."

The cross-burning was no doubt an initiation or "naturalization" ceremony for new members.

Many of the cars carrying the men bore out-of-state tags. All license numbers on the tags were visible, but those from Alabama apparently concealed the number which designates county in which cars are registered.

When the ceremony broke up, part of the automobiles went toward Anniston or Atlanta and others went toward Birmingham.

Several cars followed the hooded men as they drove away. The Ku Kluxers stopped their cars and motioned to those following to turn back.

'Bama Klan, Police Continue Outrages

The Worker

ORGANIZATIONS, INDIVIDUALS RAIN PROTESTS AS KILLINGS, TERRORIST ACTS HIT NEGROES AND WHITES

By Mary Southard

Sun. 7-4-48

BIRMINGHAM.—Wide sections of the people of this community are joining in the demand for full investigation and outlawing of the Ku Klux Klan after the invasion last week of a Negro Girl Scout training camp by a band of hooded robed men. Mrs. Paul Rittenhouse, national director of Girl Scouts, Inc., asked Attorney General Tom Clark that "members of the white-robbed and hooded group be identified and brought to justice," on the grounds of unlawful entry and search.

The scout leader charged that twelve masked men entered Camp Fletcher near Bessemer June 10 while 100 robed men waited nearby. The two white instructors whose tent was broken into, were roughly searched and told to leave the vicinity within 24 hours. The two women, Miss Elizabeth Ijams and Miss Katherine Nickel, were conducting a training camp for young Negro Scout leaders from several Southern states, and the camp had been in session for several weeks.

★

THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY has been aroused into protest by the brutal action of the KKK against two defenseless women. Resolutions condemning the action have come from the county Girl Scout Board, the social service committee of the Birmingham Pastors Union, and from the Alabama Department of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Under public pressure Sheriff Hotel McDowell has offered to deputize any and all citizens who will help in identifying and bringing the night riders to justice.

Governor Folsom announced that he would confer with the state attorney general to see what steps could be taken by the state to prosecute the invaders of the Scout camp.

Worker

MEANWHILE a local Birmingham attorney, Abe Berkowitz has been conducting a widely publicized campaign which has gotten enthusiastic support, to drive the Federated Ku Klux Klans out of the state. The KKK was chartered in Alabama in 1946. Mr. Berkowitz called on state attorney general Carmichael to start quo waranto proceedings to revoke the KKK charter. He stated in a published letter to the press that if this failed he would start such proceedings as a private citizen.

In another letter he proposed to the City Commission the immediate adoption of eight ordinances which he said would drive "these gangsters, their meetings, their headquarters, their paraphernalia and their profits out of our city." The proposed ordinances were directed against hooded and secret organizations and the wearing of masks at meetings or on parades. The state headquarters of the KKK is in Birmingham with one William Morris listed as secretary-treasurer.

In his last letter to the papers Mr. Berkowitz indicated the tremendous support he has received in his one-man campaign to outlaw the KKK. He said that hundreds of people had written to him and telephoned offering their support. These people, he said, "despise intolerance, hate, class prejudice, abhor strife and loathe cowards. The people of this community holds in their hands the power to bring an immediate end to his lawlessness . . ."

★

THE BIRMINGHAM PAPERS and most of the state press have been outspoken against the outbreak of KKK terrorism.

Said the Birmingham Post:

"The decent people of Alabama will not countenance the revival of the Klan or any part of it which attempts to hide the lawlessness of its members behind masks. . . . There is a law on the statute books of Alabama which makes it a felony to commit masked assault on any person or persons. The law was passed to stop the hooded lawlessness of the Klan. It still has the support of the people of Alabama. They expect it to be enforced. . . ."

The Birmingham Age-Herald:

". . . This episode is horrifying. It should arouse the militant spirit of all decent law-abiding people against such outrageous actions or tendencies. . . . Enlightened public opinion should be directed toward condemnation and elimination of such influences and actions in this community.

The Birmingham World, leading Alabama Negro newspaper:

"Bring these men to justice. Pass laws that will ensnare such men. Let there be courage to deal with the hooded knights of cowardice."

The Birmingham News:

". . . It is deeply gratifying that public sentiment in this community has made itself so forcibly felt in condemniation of this unspeakably despicable and frightful act of the cowardly raiders. . . . Yet in the face of this still mounting sentiment there still is a grievous lack of reassuring word from Sheriff McDowell and Solicitor Sullinger respecting the prospect for finding and punishing the offender. This is deeply disturbing to the community. Its people will not be content with less than supreme efforts to deal with this case. . . . Any official who underestimates this final power and authority of the people will eventually come upon a shocking surprise. The responsibility for upholding the law extends to all the people. . . . Let no official, no good citizen, fail to rise to the challenges and necessities presented by the benighted night riders. . . ."

7-4-48

SO FAR, little has been done either to identify the KKK gangsters or to revoke the state KKK charter. Under public pressure Sheriff Holt McDowell claims to be making an investigation. His deputy, Clyde Morris turned in a lengthy report, the sum and substance of which was that he found upon interviewing some 92 persons that the community around the camp approved of the raid. His report shamelessly slurred the character of the two women instructors by a repetitious report that he found complaints that they went about "scantily dressed."

Mrs. L. E. Geohegan, county Scout commissioner, issued a sharp retort, stating that she understood that the purpose of the investigation was the apprehension of the guilty men, and that the deputy sheriff's report was nothing but a shallow whitewash of the whole affair. The Birmingham **Age-Herald** backing the Girl Scout leader wrote: "The effect of the Morris report is a condonation of a sort of this revolting crime. It tends to be an alibi for failure so far to find the guilty men. . . ."

7-4-48

NEARLY TWO WEEKS after the event and the increasing protest from various sections of the citizenry, the head of the state KKK, Dr. E. P. Pruitt, saw fit to make a devious denial that the KKK had anything to do with the violation of the girls' camp.

He said glibly that he didn't "approve of mob violence. Still if I saw a mad dog or a rattlesnake I would shoot it."

This kind of spurious double talk has deceived no one and the pressure for apprehension and punishment of the criminals continues. But the most serious weakness in the protest movement is the failure of any section of the labor movement to join the fight for the eradication of this sort of mob violence.

★

THIS SERIOUS FAILURE to act on the part of the labor movement is especially disturbing because the KKK and its mob violence has always been an essential part of the union-busting artillery of the steel, coal and textile companies in this aera and in the state as a whole. Concerted action of the unions is needed badly at this moment to force action from county and state authorities, most of whom seem to be marking time with gestures until public anger has cooled and they can claim the "investigation" brought forth no evidence on which to base prosecution of the Klansmen.

New York

The Alabama Progressive Party, which is backing Wallace and Taylor, joined the anti-Klan movement with a radio broadcast by its state chairman Robert Travis. It is reported that a group of men gathered at the radio station to attack Mr. Travis as he came out from the broadcasting room.

This insolent threat is proof in itself that the KKK is out to use violence against all organizations of the people, and that nothing but a well organized poular demand for its outlawing and the full rosecution of the June 10 raiders can bring their criminal assault on the people's rights to a halt.

Negro Camp Raid Said Approved'

Montgomery Advertiser

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.— (AP) — The raid of white-robed men on a Negro girl scout camp near Bessemer, Ala., on June 10 was approved by a majority of residents of that area, Chief Deputy Sheriff Clyde Morris declared Tuesday.

Wed. 6-23-48

The officer's statement was in a "partial report" of the incident to Prosecutor Howard Sullinger.

Two white women, Misses Katrine Nickel and Elizabeth Ijams, were ordered to leave the camp by about 100 robed and hooded men. They were instructing Negro girl leaders, and occupied separate quarters.

Morris said in his report the raid was "a well-planned affair." The deputy said 92 residents of the area had been interviewed.

"All (both white and colored)

are of the opinion that the visit had a good effect on the community," Morris' report said.

"Some were very generous with the comments and advice," Morris continued. "Others desire to remain anonymous for both business and personal reasons."

Morris did not report identification of any member of the hooded band. He added that his investigation would go on "locally and otherwise with the expressed hope of bringing the offenders to reckoning." 6-23-48

National headquarters of the girl scouts asked a federal bureau of investigation inquiry into the incident. The Negro girl scout camp was closed after the raid.

The two women were not molested by the band, but their effects were searched and they were warned to leave within 24 hours.

Camp For Negro Girls Is Closed

Reporter Per

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.— (AP) — The Jefferson County Girl Scout Council cancelled Monday, plans for Summer camping activities at Camp Pauline Bray Fletcher.

The camp, near Bessemer, was closed last week after an estimated 100 robed and hooded men ordered two white women instructors to leave town.

The women, Miss Katrine Nickel, 39, Birmingham, and Miss Elizabeth Ijams, 39, Knoxville, Tenn., were training 21 Negro women as leaders at Negro camps throughout the South.

The council demanded that Sheriff Holt McDowell investigate the incident.

Mrs. L. E. Geohagen, county Girl Scout commissioner, had announced earlier that camping activities there would be resumed next Thursday. The council voted, however, to abandon plans for Negro Girl Scout activities at the camp.

Montgomery, Ala.

The council said it was taking the action to prevent the girls from facing any possible danger. It added it would "continue plans to provide adequate facilities for Negro Girl Scout camping in the future."

Sat. 6-19-48

In another development, Abe Berkowitz, Birmingham lawyer, requested that Atty. Gen. Albert A. Carmichael revoke the charter of the federated Ku Klux Klan, Incorporated, an Alabama corporation.

Berkowitz said that if the attorney general takes no action on the request, he would file proceedings as a private citizen. He contended the klan "exists for no lawful or useful purpose."

Carmichael Is Silent On Action Regarding Ku Klux Klan Incident

Montgomery Advertiser

Attorney General Albert Carmichael Friday declined to say what action he expects to take on recent incidents of racial friction in Jefferson County.

He promised, however, to issue a statement later, possibly Monday.

Carmichael was asked two days ago to revoke the charter of the Federated Ku Klux Klan, Inc., an Alabama corporation.

This request was made by Abe Berkowitz, Birmingham lawyer, after a band of robed and hooded men visited a Negro girl scout camp near Bessemer and ordered two white instructors to leave town.

Montgomery, Ala.

Later a petition by representatives of 66 Negro organizations asked for an investigation into the slaying of half a dozen Negroes by officers in Jefferson County.

Sat. 6-19-48

Gov. Folsom said he had asked the circuit solicitor's office to investigate both matters and report back to him.

He said he would then meet with the attorney general to decide what action should be taken.

Hooded Group Orders 2 White Women Out Of Negro Girls' Camp

BESSEMER, ALA.—(AP)— Circuit Solicitor Howard Sullinger said Friday night he had been informed that a group of robed hooded men went to a Negro Girls Scout camp near here Thursday night and ordered two white women instructors "to leave town."

Advertiser

Sullinger said Misses Katrine Nickel, of Birmingham, and Elizabeth Ijams, Memphis, told him an estimated 100 men, dressed in white robes and wearing high pointed hoods, arrived in camp about 11 o'clock in some 20 automobiles.

Montgomery, Ala.

The camp is located several miles from here.

Sullinger quoted the two women as saying the men came into the tent where they were sleeping, woke them and said it was not "proper" for white women to be within boundries of a camp with Negro women.

6-12-48

After searching their baggage and pocketbooks, the women said, the hooded invaders told them to "get out of town within 24 hours."

They were uninjured.

The Negro women attending a special course at the camp were unaware of the incident until they were told of it late Friday when a training course was cancelled.

Sat. 6-12-48

Union Leaders Urge To Condemn Upsurge Of Klanism

Atlanta Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.— (SNS) — City and state union leaders last Wednesday were asked in a letter by the Birmingham Branch of the NAACP to "issue a strong statement in condemnation . . . (of the) upsurge of klanism in this area that dramatized its evil deeds with a midnight march on Camp Pauline Bray-Fletcher. . . ."

The NAACP said that the letters were sent to Sam Douglass, secretary of the Birmingham Federation of Labor; William Mitch, president of District 20, United

7-3-48

Mine Workers of America; Jack Brock, president of the Alabama Federation of Labor; Ben Cage, president of th Birmingham Industrial Union Council and Carey E. Haigler, president of the Alabama CIO.

The NAACP said that there was a "disturbing contrast" between "labor's silence" on KKK-ism and with actions taken by "the clergy, newspapers and civic organizations."

Sat. 7-3-48

Meantime the Magazine Alabama, June 25, said:

"Birmingham's recent turmoil over the Ku Klux Klan whose members are suspected of raiding Negro Girl Scout Camp (Alabama June 10) revealed an unofficial estimate that there are now 8,000 Kluxers in Jefferson county, which is considerably more than most people had suspected."

The Birmingham World heard that there was a move on to have organized labor issue a joint statement but the suggestion hit a snag among leaders of a powerful section of labor where the KKK is said to have strong influence.

Monday City Attorney James A. Willis rejected the suggestion made by Atttorney Abe Berkowitz that hood and mask wearing be banned by city ordinance.

State and county law enforcement officers have failed to develop a single clew pointing to the solution of the "klan raid." But Sheriff Holt McDowell hit back at critics of a report turned in by Chief Deputy Clyde Morris of the Bessemer Cut-Off on the "incident."

Officials of the NAACP yesterday promised to make public "some times this week" a statement on the "klan March." No major Negro organization or leader has made a statement for public print taking a stand in opposition to the "raid" on Pauline-Bray Fletcher Camp and other KKK activities in this area.

A 4-page booklet entitled the "first edition, Kloran, federated in Ku Klu Klan's" has been reportedly found in Negro neighborhoods.

Atlanta Daily World

His is the text of the NAACP's letter to labor leaders:

The NAACP is concerned about the fact that your organization has not issued, so far as we know, any statement with reference to the upsurge of klanism in this area that dramatized its evil deeds with a midnight march in Camp Pauline Bray-Fletcher, at which two white women were molested by them.

7-3-48

We urge you for the sake of decency and the good of trade union ism to issue a strong statement in condemnation of the Fletcher Camp incident in particular and the upsurge of Ku Klux Klan in general.

We call this to your attention not because you have listed among your membership thousands of Negro workers, but because the trade union movement has always stood in the forefront of these forces fighting Ku Klux Klan outfits.

7-3-48

We believe that many of your Negro members along with us are disturbed over the fact that labor's leadership has not as yet lifted its hand or raised its voice against this outrage in disturbing contrast to what the clergy, news papers and civic organizations have done. Naturally labor's silence leaves the public as well as Negro dues payers of your union in doubt as to where you stand on the question of Klan terrorism and violence.

Atlanta, Ga.

Yours very truly,
D. S. Stephens, Branch Pres.
E. O. Jackson, Exec. Sec'y.
J. J. Green, Chairman Executive Board.

Carmichael Silent On Ku Klux Attack

Montgomery Advertiser

Atty. Gen. Carmichael said Friday he had "no statement to make at this time" on a request that he revoke the charter of the Federated Ku Klux Klan, Inc., in Alabama.

Sat. 6-26-48

The request was made by a Birmingham attorney, Abe Berkowitz, after a band of robed and hooded men raided a Negro Girl Scout camp near Bessemer, Ala., earlier this month.

The Klan president, E. P. Pruitt, of Birmingham, subsequently issued a statement denying his organization took any part in the raid "or any similar incident."

6-26-48

Carmichael said that although he has no statement now, "I will have one, and soon, I hope."

The attorney general likewise had nothing to say for the time being on a protest against the killing of six Negroes by law enforcement officers in Jefferson County in recent weeks.

Representatives of 66 Negro organizations in Birmingham asked state and county officials to investigate the killings.

JEFFERSON COUNTY OUTRAGE

One hundred robed men night-riding in a 20-car cavalcade are reported to have broken up a Girl Scout encampment for Negro girls in Jefferson County Thursday night. They did so by telling the two white women in charge of the camp "to leave town" because it was improper for them to sleep within the boundaries of a camp with Negro women.

This was a contemptible act, and also an act that points the explosiveness of the situation.

Only white trash would participate in night-riding of this kind, the kind of white trash that feels the need to assert its supremacy by means other than superiority.

These are the same breed of jungle marauders as those who did the flogging in the Klan. They spoil for trouble. They seek it. When it does not exist, they manufacture it.

There was actually no segregation question involved. These were two public-spirited young women helping colored people to help themselves through Girl Scout training, which fosters a sense of responsibility, a will to self-improvement and resourcefulness. The state is spending millions of dollars every year with its colored schools to accomplish that.

Their activity is all in the best tradition of Southern white women on down from slave days. The mistress of the household did not scorn to visit the slave quarter to see about sick slaves. White women today customarily go to see after absent and sick servants. Only the lewd and vicious would participate in such a daring feat as riding by night in disguise to frighten two responsible young white women into "leaving town."

The second consideration is the potentiality of existence of this lawless breed within our midst. That is what people of other sections must come to grasp when they advocate Civil Disturbance programs. It is frightful to think what crimes would be committed against the colored man should such laws be passed and their enforcement attempted. Consider the lengths to which such brutes as the Jefferson night-riders would go if given a chance!

The Klan And The Raid

To the Editor of The News:

Your editorial in a recent edition captioned "The Klan and the Raid" was certainly calculated to produce some clear, reminiscent thinking. You indicated that the very name "Ku Klux Klan," considered in conjunction with the unforgettable history of its intolerable activities, naturally and inevitably forces people to the conclusion that the Klan, even if it did not deliberately order the Girl Scout raid, very definitely sponsored it.

Up to now, of course, this conclusion hasn't been definitely demonstrated but those who have had unpleasant experiences with Klan policy and practices know that a full and honest investigation would probably reveal some ugly facts. And if this very reasonable asumption is untrue, the investigators should attempt to disprove it. The public, Mr. Editor, seems to desire an honest investigation which will openly reveal the unsavory facts so thinly covered by the disgusing uniforms of such criminal "upholders of law and order, God and country."

It is perfectly natural, perhaps permissible?—for cyclops and kleagles who order disguishing uniforms for "devoted devotees" to enable them to employ un-Christian, un-American and illegal means to Christianize and Americanize their neighbors, to deny that the cowardly outrage was "officially" sponsored. It is no more harm, probably, to deny an evil deed by word than it is to deny it by wearing robes and hoods while committing the act. The disguise is a denial within itself. But "official" or unofficial, an outrage is an outrage and a crime against society is a crime against society.

Moreover, if the Klan as an organization does not participate in evil and illegal practices and its members, the component parts, are Christians and 100 per cent Americans like they claim, they should certainly be more cautious in keeping their beautiful white robes and ugly hoods under lock and key so irresponsible cowards can't steal them out and bring still more disgrace to our Southern prejudices and provincialism. The balance of the world already knows too much about some of our ways—and a lot of people think we like to shoot snakes too well.

No doubt an overwhelming majority of the thinking public would be glad to help the Klan devise some means by which it could keep those irresponsible and smart-alecky cowards from slipping into its klaverns and removing the hoods and robes from the lockers of its members and using them to hide their meanness. A lot of people are wondering why the Klan nor any of its unofficial workers have not reported these thefts to legal authorities.

W. C. BRAXTON.
822 Wilmer Avenue, Anniston, Ala.

Mr. Graves And The Klan

For some time now the sheeted, misguided members of the Ku Klux Klan have grown more arrogant in Jefferson County. Aided and abetted by the hate-promoting public utterances of such men as Horace Wilkinson and Eugene (Bull) Conner, of Birmingham, the Klan organizers have been busily raking in a small harvest of initiation fees.

The general public apathy toward this resurgence of lawlessness has been notorious. Most public officials have remained silent, though Governor Folsom yesterday spoke out against a Klan "outrage", and House Speaker W. M. Beck has denounced the Klan in a speech. Most disappointing has been the lack of militant opposition from top news men such as John Temple Graves, the noted columnist.

Mr. Graves, for example, actually gave what looked like a pat on the back to the Klan last week. It seems that one William Hugh Morris, who signs Klan ads as "Secretary and Treasurer Federation Ku Klux Klan, Inc.," indulged in smart Klan advertising by saying in Birmingham papers that '$100 Reward will be paid for information leading to identification of parties who used Klan Symbols in an apparent effort to intimidate people at a residence on First Ave., West. All replies will be treated with strictist confidence. Box 2401, B'ham, Ala."

Mr. Graves, whose column appears in the Birmingham Post, wrote: "Word from Hugh Morris, secretary of the Alabama Klan, that his organization had 'absolutely nothing to do with the parade and cross burning at Elyton last Thursday night and that $100 reward is offered for identification of parties using the Klan symbols there without right—makes good reading."

That's all Mr. Graves found to say . . . Just "Good reading."

We doubt that Mr. Graves could find "good reading" in the next Klan news—the story of a Klan horde near Birmingham invading the tent of two Girl Scout executives who, in a camp for Negro Girl Scouts, were trying to teach good citizenship and Americanism to young Negro women leaders. Their tent was 100 yards away from those occupied by Negroes. They were told to "get out" by the brave hooded males.

There are those who will tell you that the best treatment for the Klan is silence, but it was not silence that curbed the Klan back in the 20's. It was courageous public officials and hard-hitting newspaper writers and vigilant, decent citizens in every walk of life who killed the Klan then.

The hooded lawlessness will not be stopped now by discreetly silent public officials and reputable writers who find "good reading" in Klan advertising.

Find and Punish These Goons

From The Chattanooga (Tenn.) News-Free Press

The recent raid by a gang of Ku Kluxers on a Girl Scout camp near Birmingham, Ala., at which negro girls were being trained for leadership in scout work among members of their own race was one of the most vicious, dastardly and stupid outrages of its kind that has been committed in the South in years.

This mob of cowdardly hoodlums aroused the girls' camp in the dead of night, ransacked the personal effects of two white Girl Scout instructors, both Southern girls and members of the national staff of the Girl Scout organization with the explanation they were looking for "cards with hammers and sickles on them" and gave the entire personnel of the camp warning to "get out" in 24 hours.

There is no more patriotic organization in America than the Girl Scouts. This organization was founded on principles of patriotism. Its principles are the very opposite of Communism, of which the leaders of this camp were "suspected" by the bunch of ignoront ruffians.

The white Girl Scout instructors who were there to train negro girls for leadership in the scout movement were rendering a distinctive service. Negro girls need the splendid training, the inculcation of high ideals, the health-giving and character-building reaction that all girls get from this fine organization. Any community in the South should welcome the training of negro for leadership in this greatly needed work.

The Klan And The Raid

Birmingham News

The name "Ku Klux Klan," by reason of unforgettable past events, suggests to people generally the kind of intolerant and intolerable activities exemplified by the hooded raid on the Negro Girl Scout camp near Bessemer. Many thought of that repulsive incident as a "Klan" affair, regardless of what particular group was guilty of it. It is such sentiment that doubtless calls forth the denial by Dr. E. P. Pruitt, president of the Federated Ku Klux Klan, Inc., that his organization, "as an organization incorporated under the laws of the state of Alabama, had any part in the incident at Camp Pauline Bray Fletcher or any similar incident." If there was no popular feeling that the Klan was involved, there would have been no occasion for the statement.

The fundamental fact is that people think of such activity as Klan activity. So long as they do and so long as there is an organized Ku Klux Klan, suspicion will be aroused concerning the Klan by any such events.

June 25, 1948

It is consequently inconceivable how any organization using that name, in view of Ku Klux Klan history and generally held conceptions of the purposes and methods of any organization bearing that name, can serve any good purpose in Alabama. Why should any group which desires to disassociate itself from such incidents as that at Bessemer want to use the Klan name? Or hoods and robes even if "only at naturalization ceremonies"?

Dr. Pruitt disavows "mob violence." But when such action is associated in the public mind with the name Ku Klux Klan, why should that designation be used?

Dr. Pruitt adds after his disavowal of mob violence: "Still if I saw a mad dog or snake I would shoot it. And some people are like mad dogs and snakes." Just what that implies we do not undertake to say. As a generalization it would find wide acceptance, of course, but we wonder what it means in connection with such events as that at the Girl Scout camp. What bearing could such a comment have?

June 25 1948

It suggests that certain kinds of conditions and the actions of some people call for the kind of treatment given "mad dogs." But just what people and what kind of action? And who is to be the judge? Special organizations or the law?

Despite his denial of "official" Klan connection with the camp raid, there is nothing to give real reassurance in Dr. Pruitt's statement, nothing to change the conviction of many Alabamians that the Klan's charter should be revoked, that no organization taking a name associated with such evil events should ever be chartered in this state.

Even a direct and burning condemnation of the raid by Dr. Pruitt would not, of course, have satisfied the vast number of Alabamians who see only danger in any organization bearing the Klan name or suggestive of the ideas and methods associated in the public mind with that name.

Atlanta Constitution

Contempt for Klan

Editor Constitution: Your news story of June 12 regarding the latest activities of the Ku Klux Klan leaves me with the greatest feeling of contempt and indignation. Contempt for any who would tolerate such an outrageous attack on American principles; indignation at the audacity of those white-hooded Fascists who dare to intimidate any unoffending citizen, and who so unconcernedly encroach on human rights.

I was at one time a member of the Girl Scout organization and have the highest regard for it as a teacher of integrity, citizenship and democracy. There is no more typically American organization than the Scout movement. It is responsible for shaping the character of many thousands of upright, enlightened American children, and ha done more to forward the spirit of our country than any other one youth group.

It is clear from this threat to a group of innocent young women that no Klansman or Klan sympathizer can have any notion of these principles by which Americans try to run their lives and their country.

Min. 6-21-48

IRMA M. BYCK.

Atlanta.

Speaker Beck Condemns Hoods Action

Birmingham News
Birmingham Post

The rising tide of resentment against the nocturnal invasion of the private sleeping quarters of two white women instructors at a Negro Girl Scout school developed further support today.

W. M. Beck, speaker of the Alabama House of Representatives, strongly condemned the action of a band of hooded, robed men in appearing at Camp Pauline Bray Fletcher, near Bessemer, last Thursday night. Six or seven of the masked figures entered the tent occupied by Miss Katrine Nickel and Miss Elizabeth Ijams, who were conducting the school for Negro Girl Scout counselors at the camp.

Jul. 6-15-*48

THE ACTION of this hooded mob in entering the sleeping quarters of those two white women and ordering them to leave was in every respect un-American," Speaker Beck declared.

"If we enjoy the freedom and liberty for which our comrades died, we must submit to the philosophy that the law is the basis of all democracy," Speaker Beck told the state convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars here.

"To flout the law is undemocratic and un-American.

"The test of the success of our way of life will depend upon whether or not we have the intelligence, courage and fortitude, without fear of political consequences, to stand for law and order.

"We must free our country not only from communistic elements but from elements of a kindred nature which, under the guise of some high-sounding phrase, promote lawlessness."

Stemming from Speaker Beck's address was a resolution urging all VFW posts in Alabama to cooperate with law enforcement officers in apprehending the guilty parties in the Thursday night raid.

The resolution was to be presented to the convention today for adoption.

6-15-*48

IT STATED, in part:

"The unwarranted and unlawful act of a hooded mob . . . in entering the sleeping quarters in the night of two defenseless white women who were engaged in a lawful and laudable undertaking of teaching a course in Girl Scout activities to a group of Negro girls . . . is un-American and unlawful.

"This convention condemns the actions of this hooded mob as un-American and un-Christian and call upon the law enforcement officers to bring before the bar of justice the perpetrators of this crime."

At the same time, Sheriff Holt A. McDowell promised an aroused delegation of Girl Scout leaders here that he and his men were doing everything possible to gather evidence that might be presented the Grand Jury.

The delegation called on the sheriff in his offices in the courthouse yesterday afternoon and demanded that the sheriff take steps to ascertain the identity of members of the hooded band.

"We're trying to do that," the sheriff said.

"We believe their names can be ascertained, and that's what we want you to do," asserted Mrs. Jordan Cowin, treasurer of the Council of Girl Scouts of Jefferson County, Inc.

6-15-*48

THE SHERIFF attempted to explain that it was difficult for his deputies to obtain evidence in such an incident, and added: "It's going to take more than one instance of this . . ."

At that point, Mrs. Cowin broke in and declared, "I don't concur in that. . . . This business must be stopped right now."

Miss Esther Stratmoen, Girl Scout Council member present at the conference with the sheriff, quoted Atty. Borden Burr as saying "several laws were broken" by the hooded intruders who interrogated the two women instructors by flashlight after entering into their tent.

The sheriff contended there was no violation of the law against trespassing because there had been no warning given the intruders.

"Had there been locks on the women's quarters, the men's entrance would have been burglary," the sheriff said. "Had the women been touched, that would have constituted assault."

He said his deputies are under bond and cannot make arrests as easily as police officers, who he said are not under bond and therefore are more free in their arrest activities.

6-15-*48

Mrs. L. E. Geohegan, Girl Scout commissioner for Jefferson County, said the men invading the camp wore "Klan uniforms. . . . The men were crude, unreasonable and rough. More than 20 cars were counted at the camp."

Miss Stratmoen quoted one of the Negro women who lived near the camp as saying one of the hooded band told her, "We're here to protect the colored people."

THE SHERIFF ASKED a newspaper man at the conference if it were possible that the group invading the camp could have been members of some new organization that he identified as "The White Men's Protestant League."

The newsman replied he had never heard of any such group.

The sheriff said he was not certain the invaders were Klansmen.

Several members of the Girl Scout delegation then told him they were convinced the band was a Klan group, that their robes were "not sheets taken off a bed but were costumes, Klan costumes."

"Up until now," the sheriff said, "I had no idea the Klan was operating here."

The sheriff said he was having his attorney, Evans Dunn, look into the legal aspects of the raid to determine exactly what laws were violated.

Other Girl Scout Council members present were Mrs. William H. Marmion, Girl Scout commissioner in 1947; Miss Marjorie Rank and Mrs. Frank Gafford.

* * *

THE GIRL SCOUT LEADERS conferred with the sheriff after the council adopted resolution demanding an investigation of the Thursday night raid and prosecution of the offenders.

The council decided to abandon camping activities at the Negro Girl Scout camp, seven miles southeast of Bessemer, for the remainder of the Summer, but asked for protection by "constituted authorities" in carrying on future activities relating to Negro Girl Scouting.

Meanwhile, revocation of the charter of the Federated Ku Klux Klan, Inc., an Alabama corporation, had been demanded by Abe Berkowitz, Birmingham attorney.

The attorney's demand was contained in a letter to State Atty. Gen. Albert A. Carmichael.

The attorney general was away from his office yesterday, but Berkowitz' letter was forwarded to him by his chief assistant, Silas Garrett.

Atty. Berkowitz said he personally would take the necessary legal steps to try to revoke the Klan's charter in the event the attorney general failed to take action.

Howard Sullinger, circuit solicitor for the Bessemer Cutoff, could not be reached yesterday or today.

The solicitor's office has been investigating the Thursday night raid.

His secretary said Mr. Sullinger would be in court all this week and could not be reached on the telephone until Friday.

Negro residents of the camp vicinity will talk about the Thursday night incident "in whispers only," Chief Deputy Sheriff Clyde Morris, at Bessemer, said today.

The chief deputy said he is continuing his investigation of the raid, but so far has not uncovered any evidence that would identify any members of the masked raiders.

Pastors Group Denounces Action

The Birmingham Methodist Pastors Association yesterday adopted a resolution "deploring and denouncing the act of the hooded men who invaded the private quarters of the two white women who were teaching a course in scouting to Negro women leaders." The resolution was introduced by Dr. A. E. Middlebrooks, editor of The Alabama Christian Advocate and president of the Methodist Press Association of America.

Tuskegee In "Cold War" Against Klan

Merchants' Boycott Also Used To Show Negro Resentment

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala.—(SNS)—A Klan parade, boycott of the merchants of Tuskegee town, and a sit-down in the office of the Macon County Board of Registrars have characterized Tuskegee's "cold war' which entered a new phase with a propaganda offensive with open letters which appeared in Tuskegee and Montgomery papers today. Tension in the community has increased since the Klan parade and the beginning of the boycott.

The Klan parade which occurred the night before the November 2nd elections was regarded by Negroes to be an act of intimidation in response to the determined fight made to get the ballot in Macon County where Tuskegee is located. The Klan burned two crosses and a swiftly moving motorcade passed through the community and Tuskegee Institute campus.

Immediate response came to this timorous hooded threat in a "Trade with your Friends" campaign which has flooded the community with circulars stating the case against the merchants of Tuskegee town who are considered as having condoned the Klan appearance. The anonymous circulars and a whispering campaign have been effective in producing a boycott despite the fact that an active boycott is illegal in Alabama.

Throughout the Fall, Negroes sustained a sit-down in the office of the Board of Registrars to the end that that body was prevented from functioning since it was determined not to register Negroes so that they could vote. The Board of Registrars is, by law, required to sit on the first and third Mondays of each month to receive the applications of prospective voters. When the Negroes appeared on these days the Registrars did not appear.

APPEAL TO GOVERNOR

On October 14, Charles G. Gomillion and Daniel Beasley called on Governor James E. Folsom, who is one of the board of three which appoints the County Boards of Registrars, but were shunted to his legal adviser, Ira B. Thompson. They filed complaint against the Macon County Board of Registrars and asked that the Board be made to function.

This action brought no results prior to the November elections and on December 11, a petition signed by 72 members of the Tuskegee community was addressed to the Governor and members of his Board asking that action be taken to provide for their registration.

NEWSPAPER CONDEMNS; MAYOR MUM

The Tuskegee News, weekly paper published in the town of Tuskegee, condemned Klan appearance but Mayor Frank H. Carr refused to make comment on the parade immediately following the incident. The reaction of Negroes has been that city officials and business men of the city condoned the Klan appearance even if they were not participants in the actual cross-burning

Merchants in the town, after a month, are said to be seriously concerned about loss of the profitable trade of the Tuskegee Institute and Veterans Hospital people.

Active fight for the vote began when William P. Mitchell brought suit for $5,000 against Registrars who refused to register him in 1945. After the case had gone through the U. S. District Court and the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals it was returned and thrown out of the U. S. District Court when the Registrars remembered that they had registered Mitchell but had never notified him even though notification is part of the process of registration. After the Mitchell suit members of the Board of Registrars resigned and there was no Board of Registrars for 18 months when a new Board was appointed in January 1948. It was the latter Board which would not function during the Negroes sit-down in its office.

Life of the Party

The Miami Gutter Press Launches a Lynch Campaign

Wed 3-3-48
Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

By Elizabeth Gurley Flynn

CHICAGO

EVERYONE who is anybody eventually goes to Miami, glamor spot of the Atlantic, rivalled only by Hollywood. Ex-kings, movie queens, big-shot gamblers, gangstars, A. F. of L. chiefs, retired captains of industry—why not I? After all, wherever these idlers go to enjoy themselves there must be workers as well.

I went to see them, although I must confess I looked forward to giving this fabulous place the once-over. Today in windy and cold Chicago, with occasional snow flurries, my brief and hectic visit there seems like a dream—or better say a nightmare.

I doubt if any visiting celebrity who craves publicity and often will go to any ends to get it, ever achieved quite the news coverage I did at Miami. They must envy me, my "million dollars worth of publicity." Reporters and photographers chased me from place to place. Daily Worker 3-3-48

There were headlines in the **Miami News** for a week and they're still at it. Their great scoop was that "Communists who oppose capital come to the capitol of capital to get capital." What surprised and angered them was that we did get it. An audience of 150 people listened quietly to my appeal for the defense of Comrades Jones, Bittelman and Williamson and contributed $2,000, unintimidated by peeping-Tom reporters and busy photographers with their noses and cameras plastered against the glass entrance doors. New York, N.Y.

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THE NEXT day there were headlines and pictures in the **Miami News** of the Party organizer, George Nelson, and myself and of the audience as they left the meeting. Many were vacationing visitors from other places. I saw people I know from New York, Connecticut, Ohio, Michigan and Illinois. But others were local residents, employed or in business, and it was a form of thoroughly despicable blacklist and boycot to photograph them.

I invited the photographers to take our pictures to try to pull them off other people. We would not lose our jobs by letting them be published. The pictures were so poor however that George and I were not recognized anywhere the next day when we took a ride the whole length of the beach and had frankfurters and beer at a stand. Too bad the reporters missed that picture of two Communists indulging in riotous living on the $2,000! I got sand in my shoes and they do say in Florida if that happens you'll come back. I intend to—to get the swim I never had time to take in that beautiful blue-green ocean.

•

IT WAS all very like a silly movie. Newsboys shouted out on the streets **"Communists Take Over Miami Beach."** A 15 minute radio account of our meeting was picked up later by Walter Winchell to vent his spleen on a local labor leader he claimed was at the meeting, and who was not present. N.Y. 3-3-48

The local manager of the Wallace campaign was described as trying to give the photographers "the bum's rush."

The **Miami News** was forced to make a public retraction of this yarn as the man was not even in the city that day. 3-7-48

Another local labor leader, Mr. Charles Smolikoff of the National Transport Workers' Union, was viciously assailed with headlines "CIO Leader Dines with Communists," because he took a cup of coffee with us in a restaurant adjacent to the Labor Temple, while we discussed the effects of the publicity on a CIO employee. Red-baiters in his union took advantage of the stories to pass a resolution demanding his removal for "associating with Communists."

•

I AM informed that three hooded Klansmen visited Mr. Smolikoff's house and badly frieghtened his wife and children. Altogether it was an exhibition of gutter journalism, one of the vilest I have ever seen, a veritable lynch campaign particularly, directly after the first few days, against Mr. Smolikoff and the union. Daily Worker

Surely it is no accident that one of the owners of the **Miami News** is also reputed to be a heavy stock holder in the air ways company which Mr. Smolikoff helped to organize. The criminal irresponsibility of such a press is demonstrated by their reporter shouting **"Shoot them all!"** and throwing the patrons and workers in the restaurant into a panic, because they naturally thought it was a gun fight. Michael Quill, International president of the TWU is in Miami now, I read in the press from there, to investigate the whole ridiculous business in the union. New York

This mornings' (Sunday's) radio states that Mr. Smolikoff was reinstated, which I hope is correct. I'd hate to think drinking a cup of coffee with me, a woman he never met before, would cause such a contemptible injustice to be perpetrated on him and be the spur to such a palpable attempt to smash a good fighting local union. Wash 3-3-48

Klan Poster Pasted On Miami Paper Door

MIAMI, Fla., March 6—(AP)—A yellow handbill calling for Americans to "wake up" and join the Ku Klux Klan in its "fight against communism" was found pasted on the door of The Miami Herald building Friday night.

An anonymous telephone call suggested that a reporter go down stairs and "take a look at the door."

The handbill was held in place with stickers and showed a white robed Klansman carrying a burning torch. Sun. 3-7-48

Defer Miami 'Contempt' Trial

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

Special to the Daily Worker

MIAMI, Fla., April 12.—Mrs. Leah Adler Benemovsky obtained a continuance of her trial on charges of contempt for refusing to answer questions about her political affiliations by County Solicitor Robert Taylor. The trial will be continued in criminal court here April 15. Tues. 4-13-48

The Miami Beach garment worker refused to answer questions relating to the number of Communists she knew in Dade County and what their names were. Mrs. Benemovsky maintained that replying to those questions would tend to incriminate her.

Her attorney, Louis Glick, requested 10 days to familiarize himself with the case. It was on the morning of the hearing that Mrs. Benemovsky finally obtained counsel.

KKK ISSUES THREAT

Glick asked Judge Willard for protection for his client, in view of a KKK letter he presented to the court which threatened physical injury to Mrs. Benemovsky. The letter ordered her to leave Miami Beach. Tues. 4-13-48

Judge Willard said he did not have anything to do with it and Glick hastened to ask who was to handle it. The judge then suggested Glick might give it to Taylor. After a brief glance at the three KKK's at the top of the page, Taylor sheepishly said he wished a copy. Copies were furnished to him and to reporters of the **Miami Daily News** and the **Miami Herald**, but neither have published it yet. Wed 4-14-48

Mrs. Benemovsky said she thought Dade County should investigate such organizations as the Klan instead of peaceful, progressive citizens.

Taylor said that he had subpenas for two others he wants to question

KKK Crosses Burn in Miami

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

By JOHN A. DIAZ

MIAMI—Burning crosses attributed to the KKK were seen in several Negro residential sections in the Miami area. Negro political activities were said to be responsible for this intimidation of potential voters by the Kluxers.

Sat. 5-29-48

The fiery crosses were six to seven feet high and four feet wide. They were seen in Liberty City at Seventeenth Avenue and Seventy-fifth Street, and in Brownsville, Northwest Twenty-seventh Avenue and Sixty-ninth Street, and two different places in Homestead, south of Miami.

NOBODY SEES ANYBODY

Sheriff's deputies who witnessed the burning crosses reported that they were unable to find anyone who could give any information about the crosses.

Negroes who are familiar with the KKK anti-Negro activities point to the Kluxers as the cross burners in the effort to intimidate voters. But these say it would take more than cross-burning to stop them from exercising their constitutional right to the ballot.

New Florida Klan To Demonstrate On Election Eve

Mark Gait
Atlanta, Ga.
10-28-48

Leesburg, Fla., Oct. 27 (U.P.)—The long-dormant Florida Ku Klux Klan announced plans today to ride again on the eve of the November 2 general elections.

The hooded order distributed handbills which disclosed plans for a nighttime tour of five small communities along a route in Central Florida. The towns are Plymouth, Mount Dora, Eustis, Tavares and Leesburg.

City officials in Leesburg, the largest of the five towns, said they had refused to allow the KKK to stage a torch-burning ceremony, but poiunted out that anyone may use the streets for demonstrations if no law is violated.

A fe wNegroes attended a city commission meeting and were assured that their right to vote in the elections would be protected.

Officials suggested, however, that Negroes stay off the streets during the demonstration.

Fla. Asked to Null Klan's Charter

The Afro-Am.
Baltimore, Md.

Kennedy Says Only 2 States Sanction KKK

Sat. 3-22-48

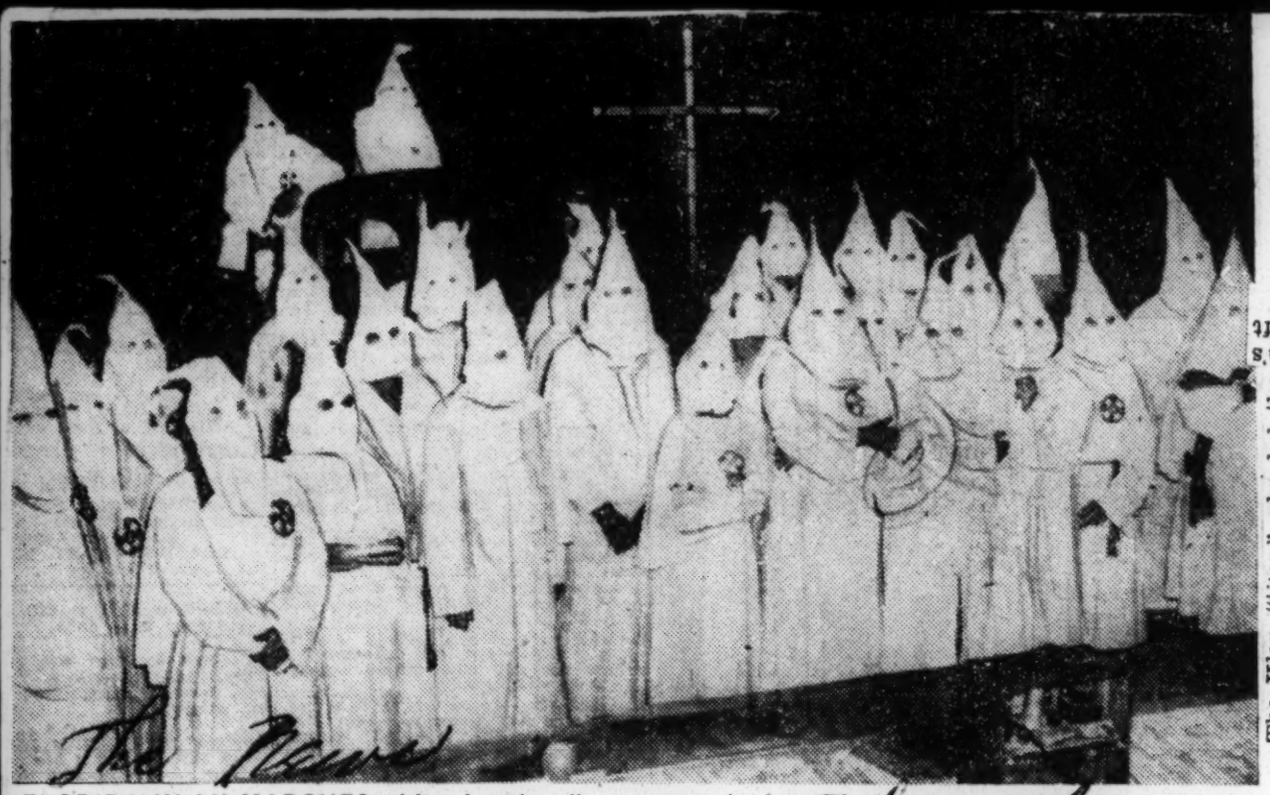
NEW YORK (ANP)—An appeal to Gov. Spessard Holland of Florida to emulate the action of Georgia in revoking the corporate charter of the Ku Klux Klan was made recently by Stetson Kennedy, Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League special consultant. In a letter to the Governor, Kennedy said Florida and Alabama are the only two States which still sanction klan activities.

The Florida klan was granted a charter on Sept. 7, 1944. Listed as directors are A. B. Taylor, Orlando; H. F. McCormack, Appoka; and A. F. Gilliam, Clarcona. The latter is said to be the Gilliam who was tried for second degree murder in this significant re-

Kennedy said "Kentucky, California, New York and Georgia have recently revoked KKK charters. As a Floridian, I dislike seeing my State, which has always prided itself on its progressive

was a former State officer of the klan. Sat 5-22-48

flag behind neighboring Georgia in tspect."



FLORIDA KLAN MARCHES—After burning fiery crosses in four Florida towns last night, members of the Ku Klux Klan stand by a truck bearing a cross lighted by electric bulbs and listen to a speech by W. H. Brough, the Klan's Florida titan. He said the march was a warning against communism in Florida. (Associated Press wirephoto.)

Crosses Of Klan Burn In Florida

WILDWOOD, Fla., Nov. 2—(AP)—Fiery crosses, the mark of the Ku Klux Klan, blazed in Central Florida last night.

All of the crosses, planted by hooded and robed figures as a motorcade of Klansmen swept through four towns, were burned in Negro sections.

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Driving through several towns with their automobile tags covered, they declared that the parade was only a warning to communists. However, everyone knows that there are not enough Communists in Florida to fill a Mother Hubbard's cupboard, it is all too clear that the display was intended only to frighten Negroes from the polls. Negroes took the whole matter as a joke and went to the polls the next day by the thousands. Evidently it takes more than a white sheet tihese days to frighten Negroes who faced Germans and Japanese in the last war, over major portions of the globe.

Florida's Governor Caldwell, quite incensed about the whole affair has ordered a full investigation to determine why state and county officers made no attempt to arrest or stop drivers of cars traveling with covered license plates, which is against the law.

The Klan "titan" who led the 50-car terror caravan in Florida is known. He is W. H. Brough, of Wildwood. His name has been splashed in almost every newspaper. He has announced that his actions were prompted by the Klan's determination not to tolerate "Communism" in Florida. Now I wonder what Truman, Tom Clark and J. Edgar Hoover are waiting for. And I wonder whether Dewey will demand that they do something.

A FOOTNOTE to Nashville and Wildwood shows the direction in which southern progress lay; In one Florida town—Leesburg—an unnamed white man courageously pulled down one of the Klan's crosses just after the Klan left on Monday night.

As We Daily See It

Flaming Cross Casts Light on Elections

By Abner W. Berry

FLORIDA NEGROES, the newspapers report, stayed close to home on election eve as Klan crosses burned in the center of the state. In four Florida towns Negro citizens were greeted on election day with the charred remains of fiery threats to their civil rights.

The Negroes-better-not-vote movement in Tennessee was more subtle. Nashville Negroes were sent letters advising: "Keep away from the polls Nov. 2—KKK. The Klan knows YOU."

Dr. Samuel Green, the Atlanta doctor who doubles in cotton robes as the Klan's imperial wizard, immediately denied any connection between his organization and the Tennessee hate hucksters. His denial, I strongly suspect, was for the purpose of clearing his group with the Post Office Department, a federal agency. It seems that this agency has some powers over state matters transacted through the mails is not exactly innocent or prankish.

In Florida it was different. The Klan operated entirely within its state's rights. Some 50 cars with carefully covered state tags and equally well-covered faces (undoubtedly using state-produced white cotton goods) drove over state roads, burned crosses made of wood grown in the state to prevent Negro natives from voting in a state election.

With such protection as that the Florida Klan could claim full credit for its handiwork in force and violence against American democracy. There might be such a document as the Constitution of the United States, but the Klan and the Dixiecrats are "guarding" it with a "drawn sword—" and other assorted weapons. Of course, they are "guarding" the Constitution from interpretations which would include Negroes as citizens.

The Post Office in Nashville, by announcing that it was going to make a routine check on the Klan letters to Negro there, has thrown a little fear of federal action in Klan circles. But the national Chief Executive, despite all of his brave talk about civil rights and the campaign oratory on the Constitution, is practically getting the thumbed-nose gesture in Florida.

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THE SLIGHT DIFFERENCE between what happened in Nashville and what happened in Wildwood, Fla., shows the necessity of federal action in the field of civil rights. But it shows even more than that: It shows that the election campaign didn't solve anything yet. The same old Klan is doing the same old terroristic business in the same old places. The Trumancrats and the Thurmondcrats will go right on with their joint white supremacy program. And the southern Republicans will chime in with their "me, too" States' Rights slogan at intervals, just to keep the record clean and the profits rolling in from the exploitation of the South.

It is certain that under these conditions existing on election day in two southern states it was not possible to get a clear picture of what the actual political sentiment was. And the aftermath of the events are bound to prove that democracy for the Negro people—and for the South as a whole — cannot advance on the basis of the program and promises of the two old parties.

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RALPH McGILL

The Constitution

A Comparison---

Fri 11-19-48

This Is Odious

Atlanta Ga

I see where Doc Green, of the KKK, is in the news again, and this time a little more ridiculously than usual. He is quoted as saying that Catholics and Jews won't permit him to join the Knights of Columbus or the B'nai B'rith and are "mad" because they can't join the Klan.

Doc reminds me of the grade school teaching wherein we were warned against the "reductio ad absurdem" type of argument. Such as "All geese have two feet. Klansmen have two feet. Therefore, all Klansmen are geese."

Doc's argument is not nearly as sensible as that. The B'nai B'rith meets 12 times a year, but usually calls off the Summer meetings because of the heat. The meetings are not secret and no masks are worn. Also, no one is ashamed of being seen at the meeting, as most Klansmen are ashamed. And quite properly so. The only activities consist of voting sums for what charities can be supported with the funds at hand. There are appeals to support the Red Cross and the Community Fund and other civic enterprises. There also is a report on the Jewish community welfare and the helping hand is extended to those in trouble or need. The membership list is not secret. The same thing goes for the Knights of Columbus. Their membership list isn't secret. Their work is directed along religious channels.

Difference Doc Green's secret organization has been convicted in the courts of beating fellow Americans. The Ku Klux Klan has a record in this country of convictions for murder, criminal assault, robbery, embezzlement and other crimes. Some of their most prominent names are listed in the criminal conviction files.

The KKK meetings are secret. Masks are worn. The membership is secret. Most of the members are brought into membership by playing on their prejudices and passions. The Klan meetings usually include discussions of a violent, prejudicial nature.

I have on file the confessions made by Klan members of the "Kavalier Klub" beatings and of its existence to carry out physical attacks on those who do not meet with the approval of the Klan.

To compare the Klan with decent, orderly, religious and charitable meetings of the Knights of Columbus and the B'nai B'rith makes no more sense than to say that the skunk is the same as your child's kitten.

Un-American In fact, it is very easy to prove to the satisfaction of any thoughtful American that the Klan is an un-American organization despite all its pious protestations of Americanism.

It is actively in opposition to the Constitution of the United States in that it openly preaches and practices that some Americans do not have the same rights as others and must not be allowed the protection of the Constitution of their country.

The Klan has a history of violating the laws of the States and municipalities in which they operate. In this State they have taken citizens out and beaten them, some dangerously, depriving them of their right or protection under the law.

Almost the only history the Klan has is a history of un-Americanism.

Fri 11-19-48

Anti-Christian I understand why some well-meaning people join the Klan. There are many persons with just grievances who cannot find any official of their Government willing even to hear them. Too often when they do manage to get a hearing they are given specious answers. Fine talk about democracy, purity of the ballot, "good men in office" and so on does not help a person who labors under a real or imagined wrong or injustice.

To them the Klan and other organizations say, "I will protect you." It is the hate organization which says, "You are being ground under foot. You are being unjustly treated. You are the victims of others."

That, too, is being un-American, because the very essence of Americanism is to try and give every person a fair deal.

But there is no money for the shrewd and cynical men who get paid a part of every initiation fee in trying to eliminate prejudice and hate. So they promote prejudice.

The Klan, for all its claims to being a Christian organization, is un-Christian, as may plainly be seen.

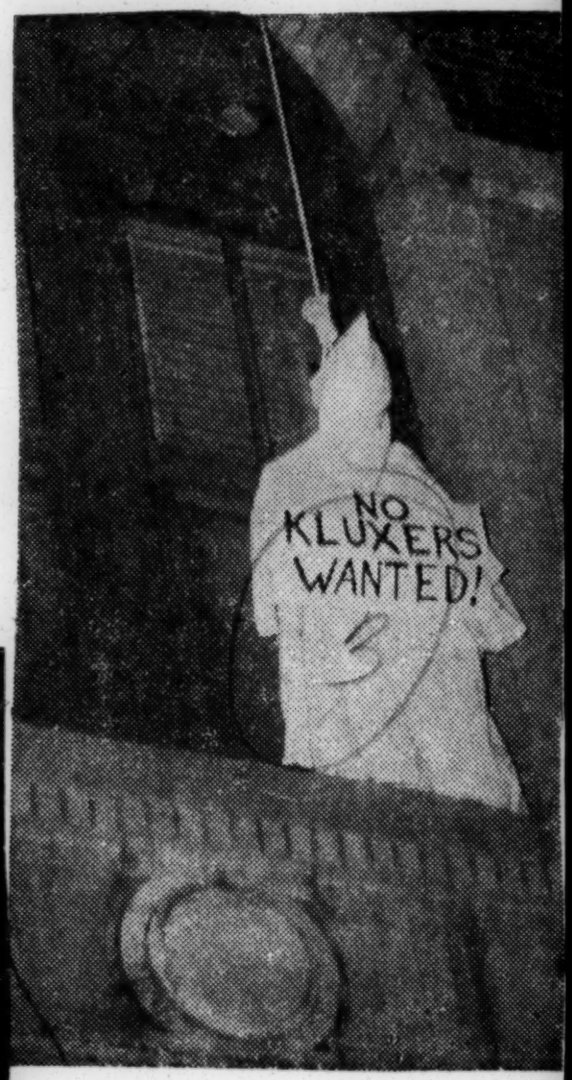
Nowhere in the Christian teachings is there any instruction to men to frighten or brutally assault their fellow men. Nowhere in the Bible is there any condonation of the crimes that are listed in the courts of the nation beside the names of Klan leaders.

Nowhere in the New or Old Testament is there any authority for the setting apart of some persons as being victims for the "Kavalier Klub."

Cross A truly Christian organization could not prostitute and degrade the cross by forming one of beer cans filled with gasoline and setting it afire for purposes of intimidation. The Cross of Christ has been burned before the homes of weak and unprotected people to frighten them from the ballot or to drive them from work. In Wrightsville, Ga., for example, the Klan determines who shall work and where.

That the cross should be used in such a depraved un-Christian manner is shocking and ugly. I would not like to be a Klansman and a mocker of the cross at judgment day.

Un-American and un-Christian, on its own evidence, the Klan cannot claim clean hands or attempt to lift the curse that is on it by pointing to other organizations and saying they, too, are secret.



GEORGIA KLAN INITIATES 400—Extreme left, Dr. Samuel Green of Atlanta, grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan, is shown addressing some of the 400 new members initiated by the group recently in the Macon (Ga.) City Auditorium. Center, across the street from the scene of the Klan induction, an effigy symbolizing the hooded order is hung. Extreme right, a Klan cross-bearer is leading a procession through the auditorium. Both the public and press were invited to attend the ceremonies at which Klan members wore only face masks. Note the young Klansman garbed like his elders. These are exclusive shots taken especially for The Pittsburgh Courier during the Klan's conclave.

Night-Riding Nincompoops at It Again

Once again the morons who comprise the Ku Klux Klan have held Georgia up to nation-wide notoriety and ridicule.

Their stupidity in objecting to a meeting of the heads of the State Colleges at Milledgeville—where those connected with Negro schools were housed and fed at Negro homes out in town, many blocks removed from GSCW, where the white educators stayed—is beyond understanding, particularly since similar meetings have been held annually since 1933.

This latest action of the bed-sheeted bigots only serves to re-emphasize the need for expanding our educational efforts in the hope that, in time, such festering minds can be opened to something other than hate and intolerance.

SUBVERSIVE Attorney General Asked To Act Now

Atlanta Daily World
Atlanta, Ga

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—The American Veterans Committee has urged Attorney General Tom C. Clark, to designate the "Associated Klans of Georgia" as a subversive organization.

If this action were taken, it would have the effect of bringing members of the Georgia Klan within the purview of President Trumans' executive order prescribing procedures for the administration of the Government's loyalty program.

In a letter to the Attorney General, released for publication Friday, the AVC directed attention to the fact that Mr. Clark has classified the Ku Klux Klan as an organization which has adopted a policy of approving the commission of acts of violence to deny others their rights, but the "Associated Klans of Georgia," an alias for the Ku Klux Klan, has not been classified.

The AVC also wrote Secretary of the Treasury John Snyder requesting that the Bureau of Internal Revenue take steps to reopen against the "Associated Klans of Georgia" the income tax case it dropped against the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc., because that organization had presumable disbanded.

The text of the letter to Attorney General Clark, signed by Gilbert A. Harrison, AVC national chairman, follows:

"Your office now lists the Ku Klux Klan as a subversive organization. There is no such organization. The organization now carrying out the principles generally associated with KKK'ism is the Associated Klans of Georgia headed by "Grand Dragon" Samuel Green. "Associated Klans of Georgia" is an alias for Knights of the Ku Klux Klans, Inc., which was disbanded some time ago when the KKK was faced with an income tax case.

"The Civil Services loyalty review board recently sent a directive to the loyalty boards of all federal government agencies directing them to "confine their consideration and assessment of derogatory information to organizations on the Attorney Genehal's list." Thus today the government has no way of keeping out of its employ members of the Associated Klans of Georgia.

"We therefore strongly urge you to place the Associated Klans of Georgia on your list of subversive organizations.

"We attach documents supplied to our national office by Lester Persells, Atlanta, Ga., a member of AVC's National Planning Committee. We think these show that the Associated Klans of Georgia is first, the national organization now carrying out the principles of KKK'ism and, second, the successor in fact to the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc.

"We understand that, on disabandment of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc., the Bureau of Internal Revenue dropped prosecution of an income tax case against the organization. When you have completed study of these documents we ask you to forward them to Secretary of the Treasury Snyder in order that he may know the Associated Klans of Georgia and the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc., are in fact the same organization. We are writing the Secretary of the Treasury today requesting reinstatement of the income tax case against the Klan.

"In conclusion, AVC wishes to compliment the Department of Justice on the manner in which it has handled threats to our democracy from the totalitarians of both the right and the left. We think the Department has shown a regard for civil liberties not always shown in other quarters. We trust, however, that the Department in its necessary concern over Communists does not forget that we face a real danger from the extreme right."

PHOTOSTATS INCLUDED

Documents attached to the letter to the Attorney General included photostats of applications for membership in the Associated Klans of Georgia and summaries of public actions of that organization which, in the opinion of AVC, show conclusively that the Associated Klans of Georgia is identical with the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc.

The text of the letter to Secretary of the Treasury Snyder, also signed by Mr. Harrison, follows:

"Some time ago, the Bureau of Internal Revenue dropped a case pending against the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc., because that organization had presumably disbanded. The membership of this organization immediately went into a new organization called the Associated Klans of Georgia. Samuel Green, formerly "Grand Dragon" of the Knights is now "Grand Dragon" of the Associated Klans.

"We have today sent to Attorney General Clark documents which, in our judgement, show conclusively that the two organizations are one and the same and that, by adopting an alias, these Klansmen have sought to escape the consequences of their acts. We hope that Mr. Clark will place the Associated Klans on his list of subversive organizations. We have asked the Attorney-General to forward to you these documents when he has concluded his examination of them.

"We ask that you take steps to see that the Bureau of Internal Revenue immediately reopens against the Associated Klans of Georgia the income tax case which it instituted against the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc."

End of Klan Urged by Ga. Governor

Says Intimidation Harms Dixie Prestige

ATLANTA — Governor M. E. Thompson on March 5 urged the State Legislature to pass laws outlawing the Ku Klux Klan, declaring that its actions have "cut the ground beneath the feet" of Southern Congressmen who are fighting against an anti-lynch bill.

Stating that the Klan and its type of mind are aiding "race baiters and radical organizations" pressing for an anti-lynch law, he urged "misguided members to quit the hooded organization.

Wants "Best Face" Seen

The klan and its intimidation meetings must be outlawed, he said, "so that the South may present its best face to the nation and demonstrate that we do not need the proposed laws duplicating our own."

As evidences of the klan's negative effect on the South's "prestige," he cited the recent marches in Swainsboro and in Wrightsville, where intimidation successfully prevented over 400 persons from voting in a primary election last week.

Plans for Mass Meeting Aired

Afro American
Baltimore, Md

Growth of Chapters in North Revealed

LIST NYC UNIT

Anti-Nazi League Agents Make Expose

By JAMES L. HICKS

NEW YORK (NNPA)—Confidential reports on the activities of the Ku Klux Klan, forwarded to New York by secret agents of the Anti-Nazi League, who have become members of the Klan, showed last Tuesday that the Klan is not only flourishing in Georgia but is rapidly growing in Northern and Western States as well.

Prof. James H. Sheldon, administrative chairman of the Anti-Nazi League, last Tuesday, made reports from the League's spies in the Atlanta (Ga.) Klan available to the NNPA News Service. He permitted the writer to go over detailed minutes of the Klan meetings in Atlanta which were written by an agent who is a secret member of the Klan.

The agent reports that at the Nov. 15 meeting Klavern No. 1 in Atlanta made plans for the December meeting of the Klan at Macon, Ga. which the Klan's grand dragon, Dr. Samuel Green, claims will be the greatest meeting the Klan ever held.

Chapters in North

At that meeting, Cliff Vitters, head of the Kavilbier Klu, a Klan organization, reported that the Klan was rapidly growing, that there are now three chapters in Chicago, several in New Jersey and others in New York. The agent's report said the Klansmen expressed surprise at their success in recruiting members in NYC.

It was at this meeting that Vitters is reported to have told the Klansmen that the Klan was growing at such a rapid rate in Northern areas that it would soon be in a position to "change some of the things that Klansmen have to bear" in the North. More than 200 Klansmen attended the Nov. 15 meeting.

The agent's report on a meeting of Nov. 8, at which 100 Klansmen were present, said the Klansmen had reinstated a former member in order to commission him to go into Griffen, Ga., and set up a new Klan there. At this meeting, Grand Dragon Green told the Klansmen that the Macon meeting on Dec. 10 would initiate Klansmen from all over the country and said Augusta, Ga. alone had 270 members to be initiated. The AFRO will cover this meeting.

Laugh at Letter

The Grand Dragon produced a letter at this meeting which he said was a letter from a colored woman asking the Klan to run another colored woman out of Atlanta. The agent's report said the Klan membership had a big laugh on the letter.

At another meeting reported on by a secret agent a Klansman named the Rev. Thomas H. Harrison is said to have made the statement before the membership that "in God's sight it is no sin to kill a n---r, for a n---r is nothing more than a dog or a beast."

The agent's report further quotes an Atlanta detective named Jimmy Helms as urging the Klan to become more active, especially in the vicinity of Carrolton, Ga., where he said a colored man had molested some white women recently and a white man named Carl Stevens was murdered.

Claims Dixie's 'Face Changing'

"The face of the South is changing . . . and there is no place on it for the soiled hood of the Ku Klux Klan."

So writes Lester Velie, correspondent for Collier's, in an article, "The Klan Rides the South Again," which appears as the top feature article in the current issue of Colliers.

Velie exposes the Klan as a hate organization aimed at depriving Negroes from exercising their civil rights and impending the progress of both whites and Negroes in the South. In this, Velie writes, the hate mongers will be successful only temporarily.

"Men of good will in Dixie believe that the hate fringe can hold back the region's progress only temporarily. Factories are going up too fast; machinery is pouring onto the farms and sending a growing stream of Southern fold to the cities," he concluded.

KU KLUX KLAN MACHINES

Editor, The Advertiser:

The present racial and political situation has some very amusing sides to it. If one has observed what has been going on for many years and what happened here in the South years ago. Here in Alabama and I believe the whole South, there has been a steady migration of the colored population since the boll weevil spread over Alabama. They seemed to have first migrated into Southern industry and then on North.

This migration was not just a matter of choice but rather a necessity on the part of both the Southern planter and the Negro. The farmer could not make ends meet. Farming the old way and farm labor could not live without work. First it was cows, poultry and hogs and food crops, then came machine farming. All of these machines make it possible to operate profitably and with less labor.

Add to what we already have the chopper, picker, corn husker and other implements along with the present household conveniences and one can readily see that our Southern Negroes are becoming less a necessity and more of a luxury. There seems to be developing politically in New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois and some other Northern states, the exact replica of what happened here in the South during the seventies except this time it is Northern Democrats dishing it out to Northern Republicans regardless of the South's attitude on this question. Well, the Republicans deserve it for really they are caught in the same kind of net they once weaved in the South and it's going to be interesting to see what they do to extract themselves.

I want to say this to our Northern cousins across the Mason and Dixon line: If they are really anxious to have a few million more of our colored population just let either party pass a civil rights bill we don't like.

We won't have to organize the K. K. K. or lynch any one; we will just have to buy cotton choppers, cotton pickers and a few other implements and necessity will do the rest. Surely President Truman, Joseph White and a few others could not seriously object to that.

The Dam Yankees are not as smart as they sometimes think they are. The greatest asset the Negro has in the United States is the sincere friendship that has been built up by both races here in the South. ROBERT C. RIVES.

Forest Home, Ala.

Professions And Practices

(From The Atlanta Journal)

The 300 suckers who were being initiated into the Ku Klux Klan at Macon last Friday night (Dec. 10) were asked by the master of ceremonies if they subscribed to "the tenets of the Christian religion." They mumbled "yes."

On Monday the 45 members of the Methodist Ministers' Association of Atlanta unanimously signed resolutions denouncing the Klan as a cowardly, anti-Christian mob and said, "We are scandalized at the Klan's desecration of the Cross of Christ."

On Friday night, the 300 suckers vowed that they place the American government above all else.

President Truman's loyalty board has notified the Federal Bureau of Investigation that "the Klan advocates and promotes the denial to these (Negro, Catholic and Jewish) persons and groups of their rights and freedoms guaranteed or recognized by the Constitution of the United States."

On Friday night the 300 suckers promised to uphold the law.

On Monday Gov. William A. Tuck of Virginia notified the superintendent of the state police to run down the unlawful Klan activities near Suffolk, saying "the activities of the Klan are offensive to the sensibilities of law-abiding citizens. We will not allow any of our people of any race to be subjected to terrorism or intimidation by the Klan or any other organization whose main forte is main strength and terror."

And at the same time the enforcement officers of the law in Chattanooga and Hamilton County, Tennessee, began a vigorous inquiry into a Ku Klux raid which on Saturday night had as a by-product the assaulting of a Chattanooga Times reporter by an armed, masked klansman.

Incidentally, it may be said that Tennessee has a statute which makes it a capital offense, punishable with electrocution, for a masked person to assault another with a deadly weapon.

However, the point of our discussion is this:

The Klan professes to be Christian, and the ministers of Christ denounce it as anti-Christian.

The Klan professes to put America first in its loyalty. The government denounces it as a denial of the Constitution of the United States.

The Klan professes to be law-abiding. Gov. Tuck and officers of the law in Tennessee brand it as lawless and as offensive to the sensibilities of law-abiding folk.

The 300 suckers taken in at Macon must be in a sad state of bewilderment—if they are able to read and keep up with the news.

Sorority Girls' Reply

Editor Constitution: In reply to the letters regarding sorority rushing in The Atlanta Constitution, we would like to express our views.

In the first place, it seems that these letters reflect only narrow-mindedness and short-sightedness on the part of many people.

There are approximately 400 members in the pan-Hellenis and numerous hundreds in other sororities. The mothers and fathers of these girls whole-heartedly support the sororities as a means of keeping their daughters' interests off of the disreputable sides of life.

A sorority girl cannot do an act of any kind that goes uncensored. May it be pointed out that our elders who so severely criticize our harmless antics once a year, that being rush week and pledge Sunday, are themselves members of some fraternal club or organization. Among these are the Ku Klux Klan and the Shriners, who are even sillier in dressing their prospective members in red suits and marching them through town on Peachtree. They do not receive criticism.

As to the mention of buying gingerale and set-ups on Sunday. May it also be pointed out that these things may be drunk without alcoholic beverages and are very enjoyable with ice and lemon juice. It is impossible to enumerate the number of our elders who continually drink and could it be one of these recovering from a Saturday night hangover who is "Mr. Disgusted."

RALPH McGILL

Wonder If A Kluxer's Family---?

How proud a Kluxer's family must be of him! With what pride must the wife and the children look upon the head of the house as he comes in and tucks his robe in the trunk.

How their eyes must shine with pride as they look at the manly fellow.

True enough, he travels at night, and masked. Always he travels with the herd. But, how fearless he is when he and his herd of cross-burners whip a man or burn the Negro school and church. How firm the hand that applies the torch—never a tremble. And, when they have scuttled off and look back at the glowing sky, how lit are their faces.

His family must be thrilled when he comes in and tucks his pistol away. He has just fired it into the house of a poor Negro family and frightened them badly. His family must delight in sharing this simple joy and pleasure. Perhaps they discuss it with the neighbors, those in the know, of course. "My Bill said he was very brave and fired right through the window. He said it was very funny when the nigger woman and all her kids began to scream." Is it true your husband fired over the house?

Children One can imagine the children of a Kluxer flogger or killer looking up at him and asking, their little faces aglow:

"Daddy, weren't you the least bit afraid when you and the others held that man and beat him? How did his flesh feel when the whip hit it, Daddy? I am so proud of you, Daddy, for being so brave. Will I grow up to be a fine, brave man like you, Daddy, to go riding in cars at night with my hat pulled over my eyes or with a mask on? Oh, I hope so, Daddy.

"Daddy, hold my hand—wipe the blood off first, Daddy—did those little black children scream when you knocked their papa and mama down on the floor? I'd sure like to have heard them, Daddy. Are the other men as brave as you, Daddy? It must be so exciting to ride at night and slip down nigger streets and scare them. Is that what you mean by supremacy, Daddy?

"Daddy, when you hold the pistols on one of those poor white cowards and he shakes with fear, aren't you scared even a teeny-weeny bit? Why aren't they brave like you?

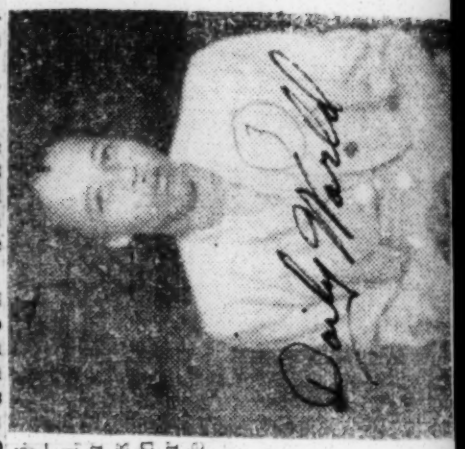
"Daddy, last night I had a bad dream. I dreamed I saw the face of God and it was angry and He seemed to be looking right into our house. Was He angry because you weren't rougher with that bad man? Didn't you hit him hard enough? Sometimes you shoot them. Maybe God wanted you to shoot this one, Daddy. I'll bet God and Jesus are proud of you, Daddy, just like I am."

'Rights' One wonders, too, if the Kluxer himself, when he has killed a defenseless man, or beaten one, or driven him from his home with force and numbers; when he has done grave and deep injustice to a fellow man merely because of hate and prejudice, never feels fear for himself. I assume there is some sort of hell, there are many ideas about it, and whatever the shape of hell may be, mean, cruel and unjust persons are going to experience it.

The plain fact is that the shrewd men who form hate organizations do so to make money, they have a great contempt for the suckers they take in, who are so easily fooled and excited. Most of those who join the Klan, for example, do so out of a great feeling of inferiority.

There are others whose affiliation I can understand. I have a cold contempt only for those strong-arm boys and for the cold-eyed men who hie their stupid ones on to violence and make the money out of misery and prejudice.

Some I have a genuine sympathy for, and understanding of, some Klan members. They have grievances and our organization of society does not provide an easy way for them to express or have remedied those grievances. There are great problems growing out of the fringes of white and Negro housing



FORCED TO QUIT JOB—Mrs. Adele Thomas, a $10 per week employee of [illegible] has been forced to quit her job after being threatened by the Ku Klux Klan. Employment of Negroes by whites aroused the threatened Order to [illegible] the woman on the job.

when the two come together and, living in ignorance and poverty and all that surrounds it, injustices and fears arise. The police are not the answer. Neither are the social agencies. So, they turn quite understandably to organizations such as the Klan and the Columbians.

These one can understand. But the brutes and the sluggers; the mean and vicious men who use the covering of these organizations for mean, cruel acts must be put down. Every decent person must be willing to speak out. Every minister must be willing to lay the morality of it before his congregation. If we fail we will deserve Federal interference. God is not mocked, as history repeatedly has proved. And I would not like to be a Klan killer or slugger when the day of judgment comes and all the once-helpless ones point and say, "That is the man."

The Ku Klux Klan "Menace"

Has too great an emphasis been put on the alleged revival of the Ku Klux Klan?

Is there really a Klan menace today which is in any way comparable to that presented by the hooded order in the Twenties?

The latest report of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith entitled "Anti-Semitism in the United States in 1947" would seem to cast considerable doubt on the alleged revival, growth and potential menace of this latter-day Ku Klux Klan as of 1947.

The section on "The South" written by Alexander F. Miller, Southwestern ADL regional officer, and dealing largely with the Klan is most instructive in this connection.

Analyzing State by State the status of the Klan for 1947, Miller finds no evidence of Klan activity in Arkansas, Louisiana, South Carolina or North Carolina, nor does he mention any in Virginia, Kentucky or Texas.

In Mississippi he says there is "little evidence of organized Klan activity," and he cites the instance where "a small group of Alabama invaders burned a cross in Jackson, Miss., and were promptly arrested by Jackson police."

While an effort was made to revive the Klan in Alabama, it met with "meager success" which consisted of burning two crosses in Gadsden, and holding an open meeting in the Birmingham County Courthouse which drew only 100 people, including opponents and curiosity seekers, despite sensational advertising.

In Tennessee there are three Klaverns functions, and only the Knoxville Klan has been active. It burned a few crosses and three Klan leaders were arrested following a cross-burning in front of the Knoxville police headquarters.

Ku Klux Klan Has No Job To Do In South Carolina

The Columbia Record

W. B. Workman, the Charleston News and Courier's roving correspondent, reports from Blackville on Saturday night's parade of Ku Klux Klansmen through Orangeburg and North and some of the things he reports are disturbing.

Almost defending the klan, Mr. Workman describes the "third" klan as made up of decent, law-abiding citizens:

"Indications are that membership is being restricted to native Southerners who are property owners, church members, men of maturity and not of violent nature . . .

"Impetus for the revival of the klan activity in South Carolina seems to come from Georgia, especially about Augusta. Membership in South Carolina is reported as spreading rapidly, however, and there are reliable reports that men of considerable substance in their communities are becoming affiliated with the klan. It is a fact that substantial men in recent months have been heard to speak seriously of taking part in a revival of the klan.

"It also seems to be a fact, based on what appears good authority, that peace officers in some sections of the state are members of the klan. This is borne out to some extent by the presence of cars with sirens in the motor processions of klansmen . . . The law prohibits use of sirens on private vehicles . . ."

The Record does not pretend to know whether these reports are accurate, but it does know that if men of substance in South Carolina are falling for the klan's clap-trap they are not men of good judgment and if there are church members and property owners joining the klan they are doing so in violation of their religious professions and at the risk of their own property interests. If any law enforcement officers are members of it they are betraying the governmental agency that employs them.

For the Ku Klux Klan is basically an organization that undertakes to undermine all law and order to supplant law enforcement with its own private enforcement, to replace state laws and ordinances with its own code of morals. And when law enforcement is undermined all government suffers. The klansmen may be starting out, as Mr. Workman says, to guard against violence—it started out the same way once before—but it will end up, as it did before, in hoodlumism and disgrace. Law enforcement is the job of the law enforcement officers. It should be left with them.

There is no more place for this modern Ku Klux Klan in South Carolina than there is for Wallace and his fellow travellers. Both are alien to South Carolina.

Dem. Leader Exposed as 'Old Kluxer'

BY STETSON KENNEDY,
AUTHOR
"SOUTHERN EXPOSURE"

WASHINGTON (ANP) — One of the directors of the Democratic National Committee, George B. Hamilton, is an oldtimer Ku-Kluxer, I can reveal on the basis of inside investigation. He serves as treasurer of both the National Democratic party and of the State of Georgia.

Hamilton will be on hand to collect contributions at the Jackson Day dinner in Atlanta on March 5. Also on hand will be Sen. J. Howard McGrath, national Democratic chairman. Rumors that McGrath, would lay down the line on civil liberties have been discounted by him.

Proud of Klan Affiliation

During January, 1947 when the grand klaiff of the California Klan visited KKK headquarters in Atlanta, the first person he was taken to see was State Treasurer George Halimton. According to an eyewitness report, Hamilton said.

"I'm an old-time kluxer and proud of it. Klan officers make me stay away from public klan functions against my will, because they don't want me to become the target of payees of the Rosenwald fund. They think I can use my power and influence to better advantage by keeping in the background."

Bedsheet Racket Exposed; Klan Robes Cost $15 Each

NEW YORK—Racketeering in the sale of Klan robes was charged in an open letter to "All Dumb-Kluxers" by the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi league, whose headquarters is in New York.

Stetson Kennedy, special consultant of the league who once joined the klan to expose it, says a New York costumer has offered to duplicate his robe, "of better material," for $3.98. The klan price for the robes, as sold through Grand Dragon Samuel Green's office in Atlanta, is $15, Kennedy said.

Accusing the Dragon of making "a neat profit of upwards of 300 percent," Kennedy said the profit is further enhanced by the fact that the Dragon gets the material wholesale from a "brother klansman" who owns a textile mill in Griffin, Ga. Signing of this contract was announced inside the klan on Feb. 2, 1946, Kennedy says.

At the same time, the Anti-Nazi league charged, it was announced that Atlanta klansmen could get their robes laundered for 30 cents each by a "brother klansman" with a laundry at Hemphill avenue and 10th street, Atlanta.

To make the robe racket even more lucrative, they are made by the Betsy Ross chapter of the klan's ladies auxiliary, which is paid nothing for its labor, the league asserted. It identified the head of this auxiliary as Mrs. B. G. Otwell, wife of the exalted cyclops of East Atlanta Klavern No. 213.

Klan Uses an Alias to Bar Consequences As Subversive Group, AVC Head Charges

Special to The

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25—Gilbert A. Harrison, national chairman of the American Veterans Committee, charged in letters today to Attorney General Tom C. Clark and Secretary of the Treasury John W. Snyder that the Associated Klans of Georgia was "identical with the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc.", which, he said, was on the Attorney General's subversive list.

"There's no such organization as the Ku Klux Klan," he asserted, "but there is an organization carrying out the principles of KKK-ism—the Associated Klans of Georgia—and while the Ku Klux Klan is on the Attorney General's subversive list, the Associated Klans of Georgia isn't."

The Associated Klans, he said, was headed by Grand Dragon Samuel Green.

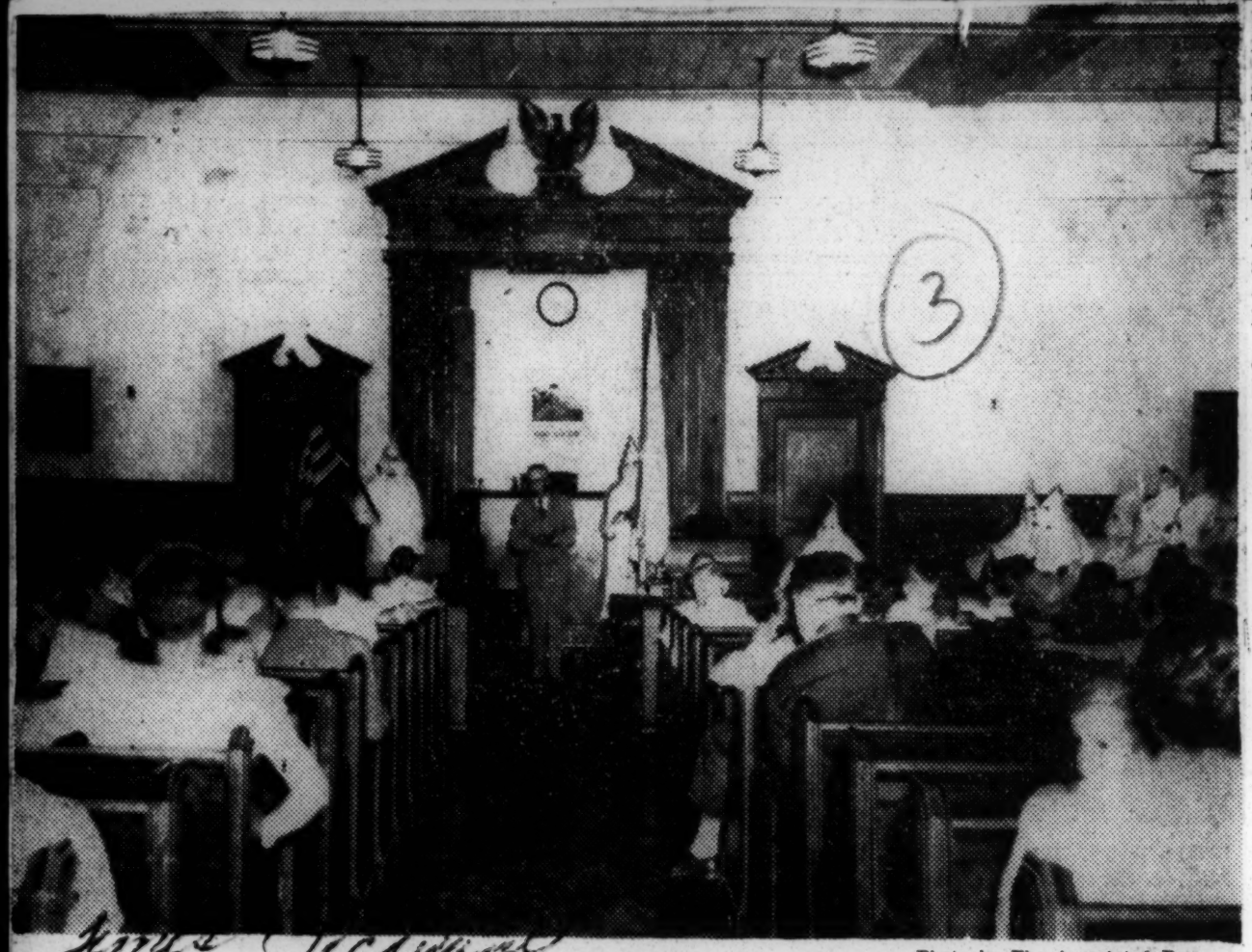
By using "this alias," he contended, "members of the klan were escaping the consequences of their subversive actions."

"Knights of the Ku Klux Klans, Inc.," he wrote Attorney General Clark, "was disbanded some time ago when the KKK was faced with an income tax case.

"The Civil Service's loyalty review board recently sent a directive to the loyalty boards of all employ members of the Associated Federal Government agencies di Klans of Georgia. Klan, in the correcting them to 'confine their consideration and assessment of de-to place the Associated Klans of rogatory information to organiza-Georgia on your list of subversive tions on the Attorney General's organizations.'

Thus today the Government In his letter to Secretary Snyder

the Treasury to reinstate me tax case against the the name of the Associated Klans of Georgia.



—Photo by The Associated Press.

KLAN GROUP MEETS IN COURTROOM with approximately 100 spectators in attendance at Phenix City, Ala., The Rev. E. R. Johnston of Columbus, Ga., is addressing the meeting of the Original Southern Klans, Inc., while 15 hooded members of the klan (right, background) sit in the jury box. Two other members of the klan hold flags at the front of the courtroom. Speakers at the meeting denounced President Truman's civil rights program.

A.V.C. Chief Charges Klan Is Subversive

Georgia Group Is Same As Old K.K.K., He Says

Special to The New York Times and The Courier-Journal.

Washington, Dec. 25.—Gilbert A. Harrison, national chairman of the American Veterans Committee, charged in letters today to Attorney General Tom C. Clark and Secretary of the Treasury John Snyder that the Associated Klans of Georgie was "identical with the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc.," which, he said, was on the Attorney General's subversive list.

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'Escaping the Consequences.'

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"Knights of the Ku Klux Klans, Inc.," he wrote Attorney General Clark, "was disbanded some time ago when the K.K.K. was faced with an income-tax case.

"The Civil Service's Loyalty Review Board recently sent a directive to the loyalty boards of all Federal Government agencies directing them to 'confine their consideration and assessment of derogatory information to organizations on the Attorney General's list.' Thus today the Government has no way of keeping out of its employ members of the Associated Klans of Georgia.

"We therefore strongly urged you to place the Associated Klans of Georgia on your list of subversive organizations."

In his letter to Secretary Snyder he asked the Treasury to reinstate the income-tax case against the Klan, in the name of the Associated Klans of Georgia.

Miss KKK

In its time the Ku Klux Klan had controlled mayors, legislatures, governors, and U. S. senators. In its time it had marshaled several million members and countless followers. In its time it had pushed its prejudices into churches, clubs, and homes. But last week in one small moment, it provided the nation with an unintentional and probably unmatched breath-catcher: At initiation ceremonies in the Macon, Ga., City Auditorium for 300 new members, half of them women, the Klan permitted Ralph Jones, alert local photographer, to snap a picture of a child parading before her elders, distinguished by the fact that of them all only she was unmasked.

Atlanta, Georgia And Klan

(From The Huntsville Times)

Why does the Ku Klux Klan thrive more successfully in Georgia than in any other state in the South?

In good times or bad, for the past 25 years, there has been a large organization in the Cracker state. Atlanta has been the nest of the organization, but it has spread out into the surrounding cities and towns with almost as much vigor, and in almost as great numbers. It also has been considerable of a political factor in both state and local campaigns.

In the early '20s a crackpot by the name of Simmons and a promoter, E. Y. Clarke, revived the post-Civil War Klan with a boom. It spread like wild fire over the South, and even into the North and Middle West. The sponsors made fortunes out of the organization.

Since then, there have been numerous ups and downs to the Klan, but Atlanta and the state of Georgia have always been its home and hot spot. It has never died down completely.

Neighbor states have not reacted so warmly, or in such numbers, to this hooded outfit, based largely on racial prejudice.

Burning Cross Ignored In Ga.

Klansmen Put it Out, Take Evidence Away

COLUMBUS, Ga. — Approximately 30 members of the Ku Klux Klan, two of whom were identified as women, appeared in full regalia and burned a cross in the heart of the colored business district here, at Sixth Ave. and Eighth St., recently, while scores of spectators watched the silent demonstration.

Despite a drizzling rain, the Klansmen placed the cross on the pavement, lighted it, and formed a circle around the flame.

Except for a slow march around the cross and low chants, the demonstration created no excitement. Colored people have continued to frequent the streets in and around the corner and patronized the businesses as usual.

Takes Cross Away

After the cross had burned for about 10 minutes, the Klansmen put out the flames in a nearby puddle of water and carried the cross with them.

The consensus here is that the cross was burned at this particular corner because it was here where soldiers from Fort Benning clashed violently with Columbus police officers on Nov. 5. There are approximately 3,000 colored soldiers at Benning.

Police Thought Aides

Eyewitnesses stated that during the soldier-police dispute and subsequent fight in which over 350 people were involved, policemen as well as soldiers suffered minor injuries.

Although no uniformed policemen accompanied the Klansmen, it is strongly believed that plain-clothes officers were present in some of the parked cars on Eighth Street.

1st Bold Demonstration

Citizens cited other cases where crosses were burned but no Klansmen stayed to perform a demonstration of marching and low chanting.

The cross burning was immediately interpreted as an act of intimidating soldiers from Fort Benning who resent tactics used by Columbus policemen.

No automobile tags were covered and the faces of all of the hooded members were visible. Many citizens said they knew several of the members taking part in the demonstration.

This'n That

MAY we politely inquire what army plans to do about the situation in and around Ft. Benning? Colored soldiers in that vicinity have burned crosses in Columbus, Georgia, and the word no Negro soldiers to be seen on 5th Ave. and 8th St., and several Negro soldiers beaten and left for dead. What are we to believe,—army reports, Georgia daily papers, or the soldiers with bashed-in heads?

KKK Plans Open War On New Party, Wallace Aide Warns

The Ku Klux Klan had called its national "Klonvokation" for July 23—to coincide with the opening day of the national founding convention of the New Partv in Philadelphia, it was revealed by C. B. Baldwin, campaign manager for Henry Wallace.

Baldwin said the Klan's "avowed intention" was to make its national meeting "a signal for all-out war against the only political party which is really fighting racial and religious discrimination."

Baldwin revealed the secret Klan intention a day after the Klan burned a fiery cross in front of the home of Larkin Marshall, Negro newspaper editor of Macon, Georgia, and the ssenatorial candidate of the People's Progressive Party of Georgia. He is the first Negro to run for the United States Senate in Georgia since the Reconstruction era immediately following the Civil War.

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BALDWIN said that Grand Dragon Sam Green of the Klan had sent half a million copies of a "fiery summons" to KKK members throughout the country, inviting them to attend the national "klonvocation" ceremonies atop Stone Mountain, Georgia. Green hopes to have 1000 new members to "induct into citizenship in the Invisible Empire dedicated to war against Negroes, Catholics and Jews," Baldwin said.

At the same time, Baldwin sent a telegram to Gov. Melvin E. Thompson of Georgia demanding state action against the Klan for "its campaign of terror against Wallace supporters."

The fiery cross was planted in front of Marshall's house at 11 p.m. Wednesday night (June 30), Baldwin said, a few feet from Marshall's door while he was asleep. It was bolted together and wrapped in burlap soawed in oil. Marshall was awakened by someone tapping on his bedroom window and rushed out in time to see a truck driving off.

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EARLIER IN THE DAY, Baldwin said, Marshall had paid off the mortgage on his house. On Monday he had been told he would be foreclosed unless he quit the Wallace movement and withdrew his senatorial candidacy.

It was the second cross planted by the Klan in Macon. Two weeks before, Baldwin said, the Klan had burned a cross in front of the home of a Negro dentist, Dr. D. T. Walton, a Wallace supporter who was living in a mixed neighborhood.

In previous attacks upon the Wallace movement, Grand Dragon Green had called upon the Macon police to impose segregation on Wallace meetings there and had threatneed picketing by robed Klan members, Baldwin said.

In addition to mobilizing the KKK nationally against Wallace, the Dragon recently called a Klorero of his Georgia Realm which came out "100 percent" for Herman Talmadge as governor and called upon all Klansmen to "put their shoulders to the wheel and get out the white supremacy vote," Baldwin said.

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BALDWIN said that "the convening of the national 'klnovokation' of the Ku Klux Klan for July 23, the day the New Party meets in Philadelphia, is to be the signal for all-out war against the only political party which really is fighting racial and religious discrimination in America.

"It is a recognition of the fact that our new party threatens to wipe out the criminal Jimcrow practices fo segregation and discrimination which keeps 15,000,000 off Negroes in second class citizenship and means to attack the growing anti-Semitism in America with every weapon at its command."

In his wire to Gov. Thompson Baldwin said that "the KKK's campaign of terror against Wallace supporters criminally violates American law and American morality. We demand that you take immediate and full action to halt the un-American activities of those who are breeding fascism in this country."

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MARSHALL said he would not be intimidated and is continuing his campaign for U.S. Senator. He is a home builder and newspaper publisher and an officer of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. He is also an instructor for the National Baptist Deacons Convention of America. He is a member of the Firsst Baptist Church.

In 1918 he waged a fight against D. W. Griffith's anti-Negro film **The Birth of a Nation** and succeeded in getting it banned in California.

League Aims To Block New Organization

Charge Highly Placed Solons With Membership

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—Charging Ku Klux Klan interference with Federal elections, the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi Legue last Friday called upon the Senate campaign expenditures committee to inquire into Klan activities for possible violations of the corrupt practices act and other Federal laws governing elections.

The league also asked the Federal Communication Commission to take steps to block plans of the newly formed Original Southern Klans, Inc., at Columbus, Georgia, to set up a powerful radio broadcasting station.

It also charged that the Talmadge dominated faction of the Democratic party in Georgia is conspiring with the Klan to prevent colored voters from participating in the September 8, congressional and statewide primary elections.

QUESTIONING SOUGHT

The campaign expenditures investigating committee is asked to subpoena Herman Talmadge and Dr. Samuel Green, grand dragon, to come to Washington for questioning under oath. The committee also is asked to require Dr. Green to bring with him and surrender to it records of the Klan's contributors and political disbursements.

In the statement issued by the league it was charged that at a secret meeting in June, a Klan spokesman, addressing Klavern No. 1 in Atlanta, claimed that a "surprising number" of members of Congress already are Klansmen, and referred to Senator Olin B. Johnston, Democrat, of South Carolina, as a "Brother Klansman."

The League offered to have one or more of its undercover Klan operators testify before the Senate com mittee on Klan activities aimed at preventing colored voters from voting and to elect "white supremacy" candidates to Congress.

CLAIM DOMINANCE

To support its charge of conspiracy between Talmadgeites and the Klan, the league asserted that the Democratic State convention, held in Macon, Georgia, Saturday, July 3, was dominated by "Kluxers and their fellow travelers."

Three principal speakers at the convention, the League asserted, were "very close to the Klan, if not inside it—Talmadge, who toasted the Grand Dragon at his birthday party; Marvin Griffin, who gave priority to callers giving him the Klan handshake while serving as adjutant during Talmadge's abortive gubernatorial putsch last year, and Judge T.Hicks Fort, who on Wednesday (June 30) granted a charter to "The Original Southern Klans. Inc.," in defiance of Georgia's express revocation of the Klan charter under Governor Ellis Arnall.

SEEK CHARTER REVOCATION

The league disclosed its counsel are initiating steps tb seek revocation of the new Klan charter, contending that all of the grounds which led to the revocation of the earlier charter apply with additional force to the record of the two Klaverns which have constituted the new group.

"The self-evident purpose of all these manifestations of Klu Klavery, including the forthcoming national klonvocation on Stone Mountain July 23," the league said, "is to elect a horde of Rankins, so as to turn the Congress of the U. S. A. into a Kongress of the KKK."

A Real Mix-Up

C. B. Baldwin, campaign manager for Henry Wallace, said last night (July 4) that he had learned that the Ku Klux Klan had timed its national "Klonvokation" for July 23—to coincide with the opening day of the national founding convention of the New Party in Philadelphia. Baldwin said the Klan's "avowed intention' was to make its national meeting "a signal for all-out war against the only political party which is really fighting racial and religious discrimination."

Baldwin revealed the secret Klan intention a day after the Klan burned a fiery cross in front of the home of Larkin Marshall, Negro newspaper editor of Macon, Georgia, and the senatorial candidate of the People's Progressive Party of Georgia. He is the first Negro to run for the United States Senate in Georgia since the Reconstruction era immediately following the Civil War. It was the second cross planted by the Klan in Macon. Two weeks before, Baldwin said, the Klan had burned a cross in front of the home of a Negro dentist, Dr. D. T. Walton, a Wallace supporter who was living in a mixed neighborhood. Marshall had just paid off the mortgage on his home, Baldwin said, and had been told that he would be foreclosed unless he quit the Wallace movement and withdrew his senatorial candidacy.

PEARSON

klansman asked him about Pearson's spy ing to 'get' him Monday night." "You won't have to worry about him any more," replied the grand dragon. "I have 'attended' to this man."

Last Monday night the grand dragon presided as usual over the meeting of Klavern No. 1, Atlanta, and one to banish klansmen suspected of

within 10 feet of me now," replied the grand dragon, staring straight ahead, "and we're go-

If he had caught "Drew Pearson's spy."

Klan Out to "Get" Pearson Spy

By Drew Pearson

When the Ku Klux Klan met in Macon last week, Grand Dragon Green held a press conference at which someone asked

being "Pearson's spies" he may soon be short of members. It also looks as if the grand dragon will have to do some more housecleaning because here is a play-by-play account of last Monday's meeting —after the "spy" supposedly was banished.

Klan Minutes

One hundred klansmen present, five new members, no reinstatements . . . Sam Roper, exalted cyclops of Klavern 197, was a visitor, made a long talk on the Macon meeting, congratulated the Klan on the fine Macon attendance and the great job they were doing for the South . . . Grand Dragon Green urged klansmen to consult klavern officers before taking the law into their own hands. Klansmen can call him at his house or office any hour of the day or night if "things need to be straightened out" . . . The grand dragon also told how he handled the boys of the press at Macon, said he had had one reporter from a Pittsburgh paper thrown out. (Obviously referred to Boyack of the Pittsburgh Courier, though he pronounced the name "Bodkin.")

Grand dragon was boiling mad over the fact that "some sorry, low-down scoundrel" hung up an effigy of a klansman in full robes. He was having the robe examined for laundry marks or any telltale clews that might identify the owner . . . "If necessary, we will have all robes called in and each exalted cyclops check to see who is short of a robe in his klavern," said the grand dragon . . . Exalted Cyclops Roper described Drew Pearson as "such an obnoxious liar he wouldn't believe him on his deathbed" . . . Cliff Vittur attacked Methodist ministers who passed a resolution critical of Chief Ellis of the county police force for allowing the Klan to parade December 4. "They are so-called preachers who are trying to condemn everything except Methodists," said Vittur.

There will be a Christmas party Monday night (December 20). But because the grand dragon was presiding, the boys were careful not to say anything about the present they have ready for him and his secretary.

MY DAY

Ukrainian delegate raps Ku Klux Klan, claiming it strengthens fascism

By Eleanor Roosevelt

PARIS—Despite a heavy day's work on Thursday, I did a little shopping. On the way to our committee room we have to pass through part of the Marine Museum, where large models are on exhibition and where a very attractive stand is set up for the sale of various articles reminiscent of the sea. I stopped to buy a couple of scarves, which I had admired for a long time. They are lovely in color and texture and little sailor boys wigwag their flags in different squares. The profits from these sales are sent to naval charities, so everything one gets there does some little good.

No one else seemed troubled that we worked all day long on Thanksgiving Day, but when we finally broke up at 11 o'clock it was at the request of the Cuban delegate, who announced it was time the third session of the day came to an end. He did not know how others felt, but as for himself he was exhausted.

The day's labors, however, were fruitful. Article 28 was passed, and reads: "Nothing in this declaration shall imply recognition of the right of any state, group, or person to engage in any activity or perform any act aimed at the destruction of any of the rights and freedoms described herein."

THE DISCUSSION brought an attack on the United States from the Ukrainian delegate, who said such organizations as the Ku Klux Klan were helping American fascism to grow stronger at the present time, and from their point of view was a great danger. It is essential in the declaration, he claimed, to say not only that a state but also groups could not engage in any activity or perform any act which could injure the rights and freedoms proclaimed in this declaration.

I do not happen to think that the Ku Klux Klan is strong enough to merit all the vehemence with which it is frequently attacked. If those who are members in the United States could see themselves as they are seen internationally, I am sure they would be surprised.

Of course, the notion of political opposition of any kind within a nation is entirely foreign to Soviet political thought. They may be critical of how an individual carries out the job which has been given him to do under the Soviet Government, but that he should openly advocate something contrary to the political ideas laid down by the Government would be unthinkable. Any group which has left any part of their country because of political differences must of necessity be a criminal group in their eyes. The words used by one of the delegates in describing those who left their country indicated that he thought of them not simply as civilian citizens preferring some different kind of government, but as actual traitors who probably connive with the enemies of their country, for with deep feeling he spoke of them as "scum."

THIS OF COURSE seems very odd to anyone coming from the United States, where we differ heatedly and yet are completely free to do so. How utterly unimportant, however, are these differences when big questions that affect our national or international life come up!

When we finished with Article 28, we turned back for consideration of Article 21, which the hard-working subcommittee had been asked to redraft. This article now reads:

"1. Everyone has the right to work, to a free choice of employment, to just and favorable conditions of work, and to protection against unemployment.

"2. Everyone, without any discrimination, has the right to equal pay for equal work."

THE FIRST PARAGRAPH was almost unanimously accepted. In the second paragraph, the Soviet delegate wished to enumerate the different kinds of discrimination, but his amendment was voted down and the second paragraph was agreed on as drafted.

We did have one amusing little exchange when the Soviet delegate insisted the word "everyone" customarily meant "every man," and did not include "every woman." The chairman informed him that "everyone" meant men, women, children, and in fact all human beings, but the Soviet delegate remained unconvinced.

Who's The Klan Fooling?

The Ku Klux Klan enjoys the spotlight of publicity. Their idea, it seems to us, is to horn into any situation wherever and whenever the opportunity presents itself to gobble up a lot of free publicity from the press and radio which they could never hope to get or afford to pay for on their own influence and strength. The Mallard lynching is a case in point. At one time during the 14 days of stalling as to what, if anything, to do about the lynchers, it appeared that the Klan was expected to seek out the guilty ones and have them account to its members for the dastard crime. The Macon initiation ceremonies is another case. There we witness the spectacle of women, some of whom no doubt were mothers, pictured in the papers in masks. More despicable than that even, were the little tots, also wearing masks. The surprise is that newspapers would give notoriety to such object-lessons in hate and violence.

A case more striking than all of these is that which was reported in a local paper recently, where the hooded order presented a radio set to an aged Negro man and his wife as a token of their high esteem for them and to prove that "Klan doesn't hate Negroes and believes in treating them fairly and honestly." On its face, the thing was a fraud upon the reading public, white and black alike, and should have received no great prominence since it deserved none.

Negroes cannot be fooled by such pernicious propaganda and white people ought to know better. The very fact that the aged couple deemed it best to go along with the Klan forces and accept the gift rather than to suffer their illwill for not doing so, should be proof in itself that Negroes are not being fooled by the honeyed words of Klan spokesmen. The Klan is a vicious un-Amercian organization and should be investigated by the un-American Activities Committee. This is no time in world history and progress to advertise such an organization as the Klan as a responsible force for law and order and human decency. The Klan was born in iniquity and has flourished on violence and hate.

Klan Prepares to Take Over Unions

By Stetson Kennedy

By Federated Press

The latest thing in Klanishness, a propaganda leaflet entitled "Why I Am a Klansman," brazenly states one purpose of the hooded hate outfit to be "keeping the ranks of American labor free from any and all foreign elements." Needless to say, the Ku Klux Klan regards not only the foreign born, but also Negroes, Catholics and Jews as "foreign elements." Indeed, in the South where the Klan is strongest, it is very much inclined to regard all non-Anglo-Saxons as "foreign elements." In fact, the KKK not long ago tried to launch an "Anglo-Saxon union" in South Carolina.

The Klan's new pamphlet—which is being widely distributed in the hope of attracting members—goes on to say: "The KKK pledges true red-blooded American leadership of

Ku Klux Klan Claims Boost In Membership

ATLANTA, March 9 (AP)—The Ku Klux Klan claims an increase in membership due to the civil rights issue raging in and out of Congress and through the South.

The hooded and robed order has stepped up its activities. A new pamphlet says it is ready for a perio of "constructive planning and activity."

Spokesmen deny any Klan connection with some activities charged against the group. But they advertised widely in advance a recent parade in Swainsboro, Ga., and another in Wrightsville, Ga., on the eve of a county primary election.

In both instances crosses were burned on the court house lawns after from 200 to 300 hooded and robed Klansmen paraded around the square. Leaders said the KKK has gathered to rededicate itself to maintenance of Southern traditions, including segregation of races.

At Wrightsville Dr. Samuel Green, Atlanta physician and grand dragon of the Georgia Klan, told the crowd "we want to see the Negro treated fairly. But whenever the Negro takes his place at the side of white men through the force of federal bayonets, blood will flow in the streets of the South."

There have been other cross burnings and public Klan assemblies, but Green disclaims Klan connection with the suspension of a high school athletic coach at Lakeview, Ga. Walter Bowland, the coach, said the Klan warned him to get out of town after a fight with a former student. Green charged Bowland was seeking publicity in order to obtain a new coaching job.

The anti-Nazi League in New York recently called for an FBI investigation of alleged Klan threats against the mayor of Anderson, S. C., who had denied the Klan a parade permit. Green denied the mayor had been threatened. He said the mayor's name was not mentioned at the Atlanta Klan meeting specified by the Anti-Nazi league.

A cross burning in Anniston, Ala., recently in front of the apartment occupied by Mayor Ed Banks, also drew Klan disclaimers. Banks dismissed the incident as a "prank."

Klan Renews Terror to Quell Rising Liberalism in South

Signs that the Ku Klux Klan is moving to the fore in an effort to combat the rising people's movement for a new party was noted today in Georgia and Florida

Negroes in Wrightsville, Ga., stayed away from voting booths in a county Democratic primary following a KKK demonstration before election day.

Two voting booths in the Johnson County courthouse reported a Negro registration of 241 in the Wrightsville district but none of the local Negroes had appeared at the polls at 9 a.m.

The two booths had a white registration of approximately 2,000.

★

MEANTIME, the Greater Miami Ministerial association assailed the revival of the KKK in Miami and cities in other states as un-American, undemocratic and un-Christian. Pastors of congregations throughout the Greater Miami area went on record as unanimously opposed to the KKK.

"As ministers of the Gospel of Christ," the statement read, "we not only oppose the position and principles of the Ku Klux Klan, but we strongly advise our people to have no part in furthering its organization.

"Preaching the doctrine of hate for everybody but the white, Protestant, Gentile, politically-conventional, American-born minority, the KKK is said to be seeking recruits. The Klan does not represent Protestant Christianity—but is a denial of Christianity itself."

★

THE GEORGIA KLAN revival in Wrightsville was the second within a week in that section of the state when Klansmen paraded around the courthouse. Previously a cross was burned 20 miles distant at Gordon in Wilkinson county where a Democratic primary was also scheduled.

Dr. Samuel Green, Georgia grand dragon of the Klan, told 300 hooded and robed klansmen at the demonstration "blood will flow in the streets of the South if the Negro takes a place with the white man at the polls.

The Sign of the Cross Must Not Stand for Hate

THE burning of a cross at a proposed Negro housing development outside Louisville may prove to be only an isolated instance of intolerance. Using the Christian symbol of the cross for such purposes is a filthy blot on the decency of any community. This outburst probably represents no wide-scale organized effort, however, but only the reaction of a few people to the idea of Negro citizens being allowed to build homes in a desirable location, on land owned by a Negro.

It might be easy to ignore such an incident. But events in Georgia point too plainly to the direction in which all such actions lead. The disgraceful affair at Lakeview, Ga., has nothing to do with Negroes, but with the efforts of the Ku Klux Klan to run a high school coach out of town because in some obscure way he offended them. He is a member of no minority group. He happens to be a husky Marine veteran who has not hesitated to defend himself against his anonymous attackers, but that means he must go about his business in a quiet Georgia town carrying a loaded pistol.

The Lakeview story is familiar to newspaper readers. It would be farcical if it did not have such serious implications. Coach WALTER BOWLAND got into some sort of altercation with a student during a basketball practice session. Feelings were aroused, but instead of permitting a peaceful hearing at the school, the Klan took up the case with its characteristic methods. Hooded figures burned a cross on the BOWLANDS' lawn. The coach's wife, alone in the house and pregnant, went out and kicked the cross down, calling the Klansmen "yellow cowards." When BOWLAND asked protection from the Sheriff, that dignitary told him he could do nothing. "I'm just as afraid of the Klan as you are," was his explanation.

Now the coach has apparently been suspended, but will fight through the courts for his right to the job. The school superintendent has resigned in protest against the treatment of BOWLAND, and the whole town takes on the air of an armed camp. Kentucky wants no such incidents here. We mustn't fool ourselves with the idea that it couldn't happen in our State, however. Once the forces of intolerance are allowed to organize and operate against one element in a community, the fire of hatred is set alight in men's hearts. Such a fire is as hard to stop as a blaze in a dry thicket.

Writer Finds Many Kluxers In U.S. Congress

BY STETSON KENNEDY
Author "Southern Exposure"
(For ANP)

A "surprising number" of southern senators and congressmen are members of the Ku Klux Klan, the Rev. Tom Harrison, who calls himself "the railroad evangelist," claimed in Atlanta Klan Klavern No. 1 on May 24.

Kluxer-Preacher Harrison claimed specifically to have at hand a letter from "Brother Klansman" Sen. Olin D. Johnston, Democrat of South Carolina.

At the klan meeeting a week earlier, Rev. Harrison (the klavern is his only church) claimed to have just returned from a trip to Washington where he said he talked with Sen. Walter George (D., Ga.) and Sen. John Bricker (R., Ohio) about "ways and means of getting around the supreme court decision against restrictive covenants."

This reference was to the court's May 3 decision against court enforcement of agreements not ot sell residential property to Jews, Negroes, and other minority groups.

At that klan meeting Grand Dragon Sam Green spoke on the same subject and recommended K. K. K. political action to re-staff the supreme court and federal government with what he called "100 percent white men."

For sometime the klan has been claiming to have spent a large sum "getting rid of Henry Morganthau as secretary of the treasury," and more recently (in lieu of financial reports to its members) has said it is collecting a fund "to get rid of a certain Catholic on the supreme court."

The Dragon was mysteriously absent on May 24, but was probably busy setting up a new klan local in Tampa, Florida, since at the previous meeting he reported having received a request for a charter from some 300 former Kluxers in that area.

Meanwhile, as consultant to the Non-sectarian Anti-Nazi league, I tipped off Gov. Millard Caldwell of Florida and urged him to revoke the klan's corporate charter in that state ,where Kluxers have been active during and since the war. Florida has the dubious distinction of being one of the two remaining states where the klan still enjoys corporate privileges, the other state being Alabama.

The governor's secretary, Ben Fuqua, has written me that the Florida klan is authorized by the state charter as a profit-making concern to "conduct business enterprises." The hate business always has been profitable, but I don't think the klan or anybody else should be authorized to engage in it.

Gov. Caldwell, who has been active in the southern revolt against the civil rights program, goes out of office in January.

ORIGINAL KLANS, INC.

ATLANTA (INR correspondent)

Southerners, even liberal ones, make a distinction between the Klan that rode in Reconstruction days and the KKK which gained power throughout the South in the 1920's. Some of the hooded brethren are now engaged in trying to take advantage of that distinction to give klanism a new legal status.

Superior Judge T. Hicks Fort of Columbus, Georgia, has just issued a charter to the "Original Southern Klans, Inc.," which is authorized to operate for profit, print a newspaper and run radio and television stations. Judge Fort, a Talmadgeite, said he "acted on his own discretion" after finding "nothing in the charter to indicate illegal intent."

The "original" klansmen celebrated their victory in an unoriginal way. They touched off a fiery cross on Ku Klux Hill in Phenix City, Alabama, across the state line from Columbus. A spokesman for the outfit declares it is "not a hate group" and is "for the Negro if he stays in his place."

The organization is evidently composed of two klaverns which are bolting from Grand Dragon Samuel Green's unincorporated "Association of Georgia Klans." The KKK's national charter was revoked last year by

a suit initiated when Ellis Arnall was Governor, a heavy blow to klanism. The KKK was also on Attorney General Tom Clark's list of disloyal organizations.

So far the only step taken to block the Klan's new disguise has been by the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League, which has petitioned the FCC not to grant a license to the radio station being planned by the Klan at Columbus, Georgia.

GEORGIA:

Invisible Invisible Empire

There were two sides to the old Ku Klux Klan coin. On the face glowered the features of hate and violence; on the tail was a big dollar sign. In the '20s it was the tail which came up oftenest for the Klan's leadership. Klan headquarters in Atlanta did a whopping business in KKK figurines, in books on Klan ritual, in robes, hoods, and assorted accessories designed to relieve Klansmen of a $5 bill every few weeks. Cleaning up, the Klan's founders put their earnings into real estate and into several ad-packed newspapers, multiplying the yield.

Last week the KKK's eye for a fast dollar split the Georgia Klan's ranks wide open. Chapters in Manchester and Columbus splintered off, forming a rival to the established Association of Georgia Klans. Led by Alton Pate, a 23-year-old veteran and ambitious former secretary of the Columbus Klan, the bolting Klansmen organized themselves into the Original Southern Klans.

Klan Against Klan: Only on one ritualistic point did the new Original differ from the old original. It banned the use of masks except for ceremonies on its own property. But ideologically it varied not one iota from the old-time principles: white supremacy and the prevention of political dominance by any "inferior minority group."

The tipoff to the split could be found in the new outfit's incorporation papers. Issued by Superior Court Judge T. Hicks Fort of Columbus, they permitted the "Original Southern Klans, Inc., the Invisible Empire," to operate for the financial gain of its promoters and authorized dealings in real estate and the manufacture of Klan garments.

The promoters of the new organization were also empowered to run a printing plant, newspapers, magazines, radio stations, television outlets, and a movie house. Among Pate's first acts as the Original's Wizard was to announce that he would soon begin selling stock in the venture: preferred at $10 a share and common (with voting privileges) at $100.

As the Original moved in on whatever pickings Georgia's white-robed night riders might offer, old-line Klansmen acted vastly unperturbed. They felt certain that no internecine warfare would develop. Cozy in the knowledge that new members were joining his association at a "satisfactory rate," Dr. Samuel Green, Atlanta obstetrician and Grand Dragon, calmly insisted that the bolters were few in number. He charged that they were merely a front for the frenetic "radio parson" Jack Johnson and that Pate—"he had a cigar stuck in his mouth every time I saw him"—would "cut little ice."

But behind this easy dismissal of the rift, Green fumed: "They're Bolshevik Klans which pulled out because they couldn't run things themselves."

Green: The "Bolsheviks" quit

Law Enforcement Officers Hide Behind Flowing White Skirts Of Kluxers

There is every indication that the South will wink its eye at the revival of the Ku Klux Klan with the hope that this organization will stymie the current strong wave of sentiment for increased civil rights.

In Macon, Ga., where two weeks ago Kluxers burned a fiery cross in the yard of Larkin Marshall, a candidate of the Wallace ticket in Georgia, local officers produced no arrests nor did they even bother to announce that investigations were under way.

In Birmingham, Ala., where Kluxers forced two young white girls to leave a Girls Scout camp upon learning they were instructing young Negro girls, no action has been taken on a request by Abe Berowitz, lawyer, to revoke the Klan charter. This despite the fact that a columnist in Governor Folsom's own newspaper has scored the failure of Atty. Gen. Carmichael to maintain the governor's promise to revoke the Klan charter.

Close-Lipped Silence

In these and other countless Klan offenses, local, state and federa law-enforcing bodies have maintained a close-lipped silence. Stirred by an anti-Truman movement in the South, most of this area seems to have given the green light to Klan activities.

Atty. Gen. Tom Clark, usually vocal on matters of this kind, has been unusually quiet on the present activities of the Klan.

Election Endangered

Meanwhile, the Anti-Nazi League in Washington, has called upon the Senate Campaign Expenditures committee to investigate the Klan activities. The league asked that the senate committee investigate the possibility of violation of the corrupt practices act and other laws governing elections.

Taking the stand that the Klan would do everything in its power to keep Negroes from voting in the coming elections, the league charged that the Klan was conspiring with the Talmadge-dominated faction of the Georgia State Democratic organization to achieve this end.

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Robed Figure Hanging In Effigy Angers Kluxers

Afro-American - Baltimore, Md.

Only 2,000 of Anticipated 3,500 Show Up After Law Forbids Members to Wear Masks in Public

Sat. 12-18-48

By STETSON KENNEDY
(Author "Southern Exposure")

MACON, Ga.—Because of the spotlight turned on the Ku Klux Klan's klonvokation here, Friday, night, only 304 (actual count) of the 2,000 sukkkers who had paid their klectoken fees turned out to be naturalized as citizens of the Invisible Empire. Many of the old-time Kluxers were also afraid to come out of hiding, with only 2,000 of the anticipated 3.500 showing up.

12-18-48

Much credit for the Klan's flop goes to the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League of New York, which keeps a number of "undercover observers" inside the hooded order. Acting on information thus gleaned at secret Klan meetings, the League was able to spark local protests in Macon, which led to passage of a city ordinance just two days before the demonstration, prohibiting the wearing of masks on the streets.

For a while I was afraid I might not get in. Somehow, word that I was going to cover the story reached Grand Dragon Sam Green, who then decided to double-check all who entered, demanding both the secret password and KKK kard.

I had the password, which is currently "Keep Fighting," but my kard had expired some time ago, when I wound up my Klan probing for the Georgia Bureau of Investigation. But fortunately I was able to obtain from a city official a special invitation, which the Dragon himself had sent him, and this enabled me to sit in a section reserved for guests of honor, and to go all over the place.

Kluxers Applaud Selves

The ceremony itself evidently bored everyone but the Klansmen, who, at a signal, applauded themselves from time to time.

Nearly half of those inducted were women. One family group from Augusta, consisting of father, mother, and three-year-old daughter, all appeared in full regalia.

Only a minority of the 1500 in the audience appeared to be in sympathy with the Klan, and I heard such comments as "The ignorant dumb Klux."

A group of Mercer College students who marched in a body to protest the Klan meeting, were barred from the auditorium with the explanation that they were "too late." When they attempted to distribute handbills in the halls reading "The cross is to be borne, not burned," they were stopped by the Klan. When they started to hand them out on the street, they were stopped by the police.

It seems that the Kluxed city of Macon has an ordinance prohibiting handbills on the grounds that they create a "fire hazard."

The Klan, on the other hand, handed out quantities of application blanks and a propaganda leaflet entitled "Ideals of the Ku Klux Klan."

Dragon Blames "God"

In his culminating spiel, the Grand Dragon sounded a few new variations on the theme of Klannishness, by paraphrasing the 7th Chapter of Genesis to say, "God said (the colored man) should be a hewer of wood and a servant throughout the generations."

At this the Kluxers applauded loudly.

Attacking the "so-called Christians" (ministers' groups) which had protested the Klan gathering, the Dragon went on to claim that jim-crowism is God's own design. "No civil rights laws which may ever be passed in this or any other country will ever change the South's system of white supremacy!" the Dragon roared.

To cap all this, he solemnly asserted that the Klan is not anti colored—"it is just anti-equality."

At the same time, he claimed that the Klan is neither anti-Jewish nor anti-Catholic; and in the same breath scored both groups.

Kluxer Hung in Effigy

Before the klonvokation came to a close, I decided to put my Klan robe to some good use. Stuffing the thing with a pillow and rags, and placarding it "No Kluxers Wanted," I took a room in the Young Men's Christian Association, just across the street.

Then, from the third floor lavatory window, I lowered the effigy out the window with a hangman's knot around its neck. Across the street I could see Klavaliers, both robed and unrobed, getting very excited at the sight.

On my hurried way downstairs I said to the colored elevator operator, "What do you think of the big party next door?"

"They seem to be having fun," he replied, non-committally.

"They ought to be locked up!" I said.

Outside, I found the audience deserting the meeting to come to the "lynching of Judge Lynch." Both Kluxers and cops seemed afraid to make inquiries inside the YMCA, doubtless assuming it to be an official job.

Slipped Into Audience

When one Kluxer climbed up in the hedge and tried to pull the effigy down, both he and I were amazed to see it suddenly drawn higher. Looking up, I was pleased to see that the hand that pulled the rope was colored!

After the thing had hung there for another half hour—amid a great deal of Klan profanity—a plain-clothed Kluxer finally slipped into the Y and up the stairs. But nothing happened, and he returned dejectedly to announce that someone had locked the lavatory door. My friend on the elevator had done a thorough job.

Finally, by putting one Kluxer on the shoulders of another, the effigy was torn down, decapitated, and hustled away in a car.

Anyway, I still have a green satin Kleagle's robe.

Blame Colored for Crosses

The Klansmen had not been long gone, when the phone at police headquarters began to ring. A colored woman reported a cross burning on River Road. Fifteen minutes later, a second cross blazed in front of Cassidy's Garage, in the heart of town.

The Cassidy brothers are Catholic; and one of them is a member of the city commission which gave the Klan permission to use the auditorium. A little later, a third cross was touched off in front of the colored Tindall Heights housing project.

A new low in "white supremacy" was then reached, when Police Chief Ben Watkins tried to tell newsmen that the crosses had been burned by colored people.

Chief Watkins cited Officers W. C. Bowden and W. H. Bargeron, who in turn cited unnamed "witnesses" to the effect that a small colored boy had been seen playing with the River Road cross before it was burned.

"This cross could not have been burned by Klansmen, and the other two were of identical construction," Chief Watkins asserted.

Police Chief Pleased

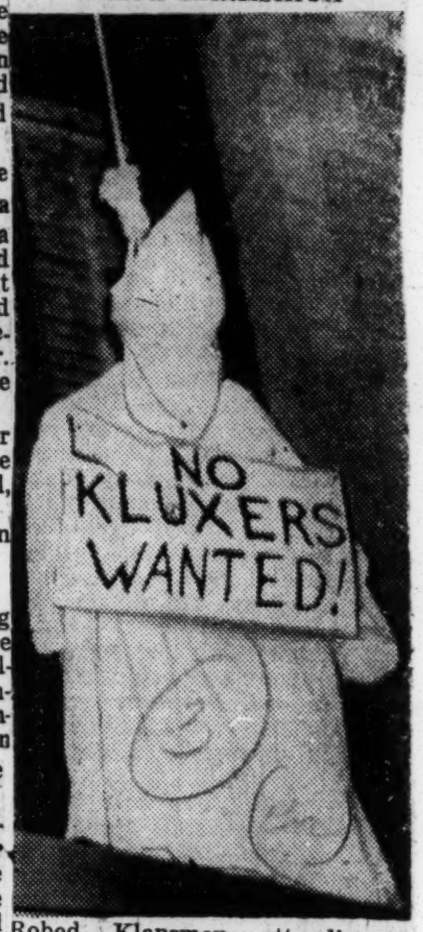
Ever since Reconstruction days, the Klan has tried to pin its deeds of terrorism on colored people, even going so far as to spread rumors of a "KKKK"—"Kolored Ku Klux Klan."

Current efforts to blame the ambush-lynching of Robert Mallard on his wife or "jealous" colored neighbors are another sample of Ku Kluxery.

Before the night was over I asked Chief Watkins what he thought of the klonvokation.

"It was one of the nicest-turned-out things I ever saw," he said.

Irked Klansmen



Robed Klansmen attending a Southwide rally in Macon, Ga., were angered when they saw this figure dangling from the YMCA window. It was hung by AFRO special correspondent, Stetson Kennedy.

Klan Threatens White Working In Negro Cafe

The Defender

Sat 9-11-48

MACON, Ga. — Gladys Thornton, white, who works as a cook at "The Mexico Way," Negro restaurant, reported this week to the police that the front door of her home was found plastered with stickers bearing the letters "K. K. K." when she returned home from work Friday evening.

City detectives accompanied her to her home and removed several of the stickers for finger-print tests, and are reported to have advised her to give up her present employment.

Mrs. Thornton has been employed by the restaurant for several months, and told the officers that she would refuse to be intimidated. She demanded that she be protected from the threats of the klansmen as an interference with her earning her livelihood.

Owners of the cafe refused to comment upon the affair, stating that the woman applied for the job as a cook, and had proved satisfactory on the job.

Stetson Kennedy, author of "Southern Exposure" and special correspondent of the AFRO, covered the KKK Klonclave in Macon, Ga., from inside, despite prevailing Klan offers of $1000 per pound for his hide FOB Georgia. Kennedy first joined the Klan two years ago as an under cover operative of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation under Ellis Arnall, then Governor. A new book of the postwar KKK, "The Klan Unmasked" by Kennedy will be published by Boni & Gear in March.

Race Leader Kept Negroes From Polls

(Special to The Pittsburgh Courier)

WRIGHTSVILLE, Ga.—Frightened and intimidated after a mass parade and fiery cross-burning by 300 hooded male and female Ku Klux members, and urged not to vote by a local Negro leader, 800 Negro voters of Johnson County stayed away from the polls in the primary to select candidates for ten county offices last week.

Only one Negro voter—and his name was admittedly on the registration books—showed up at local polling places, and he didn't vote. The grand dragon of the KKK, Dr. Samuel Green of Atlanta, personally took part in the big demonstration here on the night before the election and challenged interference by the United States Government.

Dr. Green said that "blood will flow in the streets of the South" if the Federal Government attempted through force to change this section's way of life. As he spoke, a ten-foot cross was being burned by the Klansmen in the heart of this town and in its Court House Square.

The name of the Negro "leader" who warned local Negro citizens not to go to the polls and vote, following the Klan parade, was not revealed for publication, but he is a well known citizen of this town, it is understood.

THOMPSON ASSAILS KKK

In Atlanta, Governor M. E. Thompson assailed the Klan's act and declared that "Klan meetings should be outlawed because the hooded organization has cut the ground from beneath the feet of Southern Congressmen who are trying to assure the world that Federal anti-lynching laws are unnecessary."

The Pittsburgh Courier recently revealed exclusively that the KKK is now organizing a State-wide, door to door campaign for the election of Herman Talmadge, son of the late Eugene Talmadge, to replace Thompson as Governor.

Some weeks ago, threats were made by the Johnson County Democratic Executive Committee to keep its primary exclusively a "white primary." The Klan accomplished more throughly what that committee had planned to do through the ballot restriction and requirements aimed at keeping Negroes from voting.

NAACP INVESTIGATES

The NAACP is reported to have made an investigation into the local case and possibilities of legal action are being explored, according to Atty. A. T. Walden of Atlanta, NAACP counsel.

Telegrams have been sent to President Truman, U. S. Atty. Gen. Tom Clark and Republican leaders in the Senate and House, along with Representative Case (R., N. J.), sponsor of the anti-lynching bill now under study by the House.

Grand Dragon Green was vitriolic against President Truman and told the assembled Klansmen: "We re-affirm our loyalty to the Constitution, our vow to uphold the laws, but there are some things beyond the law."

Negro leaders in Georgia, repudiating the action of the local Negro "leader" who urged his fellow-citizens to disregard their hard-earned right to vote, are understood to be planning a new attack on any efforts to put Georgia back under the "white primary" policy.

Klan Issue Enters Governorship Race

With the Ku Klux Klan injecting itself as an issue in the campaign, Acting Gov. Thompson and Gubernatorial Candidate Herman Talmadge speak twice in the northern part of the State today.

One of the dangers faced in Georgia is bloc voting by Negroes, Talmadge asserted. He said Thompson is depending upon this bloc vote to win the election, and that is the reason Thompson will offer no more than lip service against the civil rights measure.

While the Democratic gubernatorial candidates were combatting the Henry Wallace group's candidate for Governor was on a tour of Northwest Georgia, seeking signatures of 60,000 voters to place his name on the general election ballot.

James Barfoot, former University of Georgia professor and gubernatorial candidate of the People's Progressive Party, was visiting 11 Northwest Georgia counties, holding street meetings at courthouses and factory gates, seeking the signatures.

Ga. White Teacher Flaunted Klan, Forced to Resign Job

CHICKAMAUGA, Ga. (ANP)—Miss Kathleen Roark, a teacher of the eighth grade at white Osburn consolidated school, was forced to resign Tuesday because she had openly opposed the Ku Klux Klan in classroom statements. Miss Roarke, a native of Kentucky, said her troubles started when she "made a strong statement against the Klan in my classroom."

Her resignation was demanded by residents of the community and school patrons, on the charge that she made offensive remarks about some of the patrons of the school. In her defense, Miss Roark admitted only that she openly opposed the Klan and would continue to do so.

After the meeting, many parents of eighth grade pupils took their children out of the school. Of a class of nearly 40, only a handful continued to attend. Principal A. N. Sibley declined to discuss the situation "except off the record." County Superintendent W. N. Morgan at LaFayette, was not available for comment.

Woman Driven Job by Klan

...ged a motorized ...courthouse ...ld not be readed ...te last night and ...advisers declined ...

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The resolution read: "This meeting condemns the action of the Ku Klux Klan in its recent demonstrations in connection with the Wrightsville school and local churches. We request that the Klan send representatives without robes to visit the colored woman and tell her to Go back to work at the school lunchroom."

A previous demonstration involving local churches was reported a few weeks ago when members of missionary societies invited a select group from a Negro missionary society to sit in at a meeting.

Klan Labels Talmadge Ga. Its Favorite Candidate From ...

MILLEDGEVILLE, Aug. 12—The Ku Klux Klan claimed Herman Talmadge as its gubernatorial favorite at a rally here tonight.

Standing beside an electric cross in front of the Baldwin County Courthouse, Grand Dragon Samuel Green, masked Klansmen and a large group of spectators stood on the courthouse grounds for the address.

Dr. Green said Talmadge has never been a member of the Klan and had never applied for membership. He attacked former Gov. E. D. Rivers and Ellis Arnall as Governor of Georgia on the platform he is running on," Dr. Green said.

Some one hundred white-robed Klansmen met at the fair grounds, then staged a parade to the courthouse.

Talmadge could not be reached for comment late last night and his campaign advisers declined comment.

WRIGHTSVILLE, Ga.—Ku Klux Klan action last week resulted in the running of an unidentified Negro woman in the local white school lunchroom.

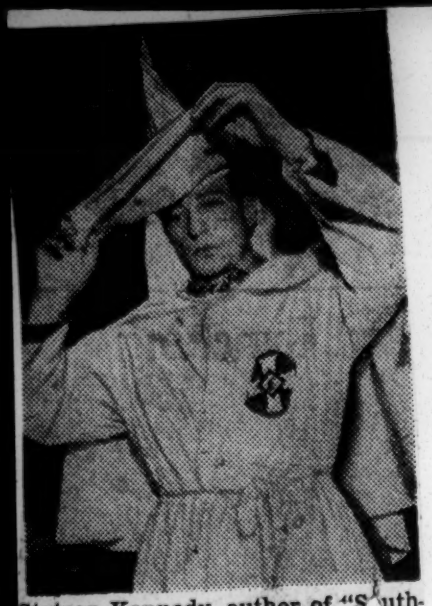
Some one hundred white citizens later held a mass meeting and drew up a resolution unanimously condemning the Klan action. The meeting was called by Mayor John Landingham, also chairman of the Wrightsville school board.

The Klansmen who had demanded the Klan.

The Klansmen met at the fair

ROBED MEN VISIT

According to Mayor



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Her resignation was demanded by residents of the community and school patrons, on the charge that she made offensive remarks about some of the patrons of the school. In her defense, Miss Roark admitted only that she openly opposed the Klan and would continue to do so.

After the meeting, many parents of eighth grade pupils took their children out of the school. Of a class of nearly 40, only a handful continued to attend. Principal A. N. Sibley Superintendent W. N. Morgan at LaFayette, was not available for comment.

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The resolution read: "This meeting, but the white men would not agree to this. The woman was employed as a dishwasher-scrubwoman at the school lunchroom.

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ing condemning the Klan's activities in the recent demonstrations in connection with the Wrightsville school and local churches. We request that the Klan send representatives without robes to visit the colored woman and tell her to go back to work at the school for less pay.

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"The Ku Klux Klan of Georgia indorses Herman Talmadge for Governor of Georgia on the platform he is running on," Dr. Green said.

A group of 500 white-robed masked Klansmen and a large group of spectators stood on the courthouse grounds for the address.

Dr. Green said Talmadge has been a member of the Klan and had never applied for membership. He attacked former Gov. E. D. Rivers and Ellis Arnall as former Klansmen who had denounced the Klan.

The Klansmen met at the fair grounds, then staged a motorized parade to the courthouse. Talmadge could not be reached for comment late last night and his campaign advisers declined comment.

Constitution Wide News Service.

14 STATES JOIN KLAN CONCLAVE

The Reporter
San Francisco Calif

Stone Mountain, Ga.—The Ku Klux Klan is on the march again.

Fri. 7-30-48

Any doubts were dispelled when thousands of the white-robed, hooded knights of the "Invisible Empire" assembled in a green field in the purple shadows of Stone Mountain to initiate aout 700 new members.

Fri. 7-30-48

And any doubts that the Klan has a national head with national aims also were dispelled.

For long the Klan has maintained the various state groups were autonomous, but a red-robed "Grand Titan" introduced Dr Samuel Green, Grand Dragon of the Association of Georgia Klans, as "the official national head of the Klan of America".

The Reporter

License plates from 14 states excluding Georgia were counted, and chartered buses brought in klansmen from Alabama, Tennessee, Florida and many towns in Georgia.

Los Angeles Calif.

Dr. Green estimated the number of robed klansmen present at 5,000 but several newsmen covering the event agreed the maximuum could not be more than 3,000.

A walk around the outer circle, however, indicated that among the 7,000 curious spectators were many unrobed klansmen and many klan sympathizers.

'WHITE SUPREMACY'

The mere mention of "white supremacy" by Dr. Green brought cheers and hand-clapping from many besides those hidden beneath masks.

Klans, Inc.," an organization chartered this week in Columbus.

The cross was fired at the conclusion of a speech by one of 10 white-robed figures, who said:

"All we ask is that the Negro stay in his place which he is going to do as long as there is a Klan." 7-4-48

The Original Klans is a group which Dr. Samuel Green, Grand Dragon of the Association of Georgia Klans, said broke away from his organization. He described them as "Bolsheviks," and former members of Manchester and Columbus.

Klan Fires Cumelatubsun Hill Cross in Phenix City

Atlanta, Ga.
Sun. 7-4-48

COLUMBUS, Ga., July 3—(Special)—A 35-foot-high cross was fired atop Ku Klux Hill in Phenix City, Ala., tonight by a newborn Klan group that stressed it was "no hate organization."

More than 500 persons, many curiosity-seekers, massed on the hilltop to see the first demonstration by the "Original Southern

Kin Finds Body in Bedroom

The Constitution

A silver-haired confessed flogger and Ku Klux Klan member, under indictment for assault with intent to murder in connection with alleged "Black Raider" activities, died Wednesday night from a shotgun blast. Atlanta, Ga.

Sherman C. Keheley, 58-year-old utility company lineman, was found at 6:40 p. m. in the back bedroom of his home at 979 Linam St., S. E. A charge from a .12 gauge shotgun had entered his left side. Times. 4-22-48

Keheley was at liberty under $5,000 bond posted Monday, following his indictment in the Joe Berry flogging. He was later accused of two other floggings and and one threatened lashing.

City. Dets. H. C. Preston and J. A. Newton said Keheley went Wednesday afternoon to the home of his sister-in-law, Mrs. Earline Booth, at 267 Fraser St., S. E. His wife was supposed to meet him there later, but a Negro maid was the only person present during Keheley's short stay.

Keheley told the maid to inform his wife that his coat, containing keys to his car parked in front, could be found in the closet at the Booth home.

His wife found the coat, keys and a note that indicated Keheley was planning to take his life, police said. She called her brother-in-law, W. C. Smith, of Jonesboro.

Mrs. Keheley, Smith and Mrs. Booth rushed to the Keheley home. They reported finding another note on the dining room table there. The Constitution

Smith found Keheley, barefooted

Thurs. S. C. KEHELEY 4-22-48

and clad in khaki shirt and trousers, sprawled on the bedroom floor near the bed. The shotgun, with two unfired shells in it, was near the body. One blast had been fired. Atlanta, Ga.

A long, round stick lying across Keheley's feet indicated he may have sat in a chair beside the bed, leaned the stock of the gun against the bed, pressed the muzzle to his side, then pulled the trigger with the stick, police said. 4-22-48

The scribbled notes were barely legible. They said, in part, "I can't stand to go on like this . . . I have never sworn to a liar . . . I have always tried to do the best I can by everybody." He named someone as a "good feller" but the name was illegible.

One witness said he saw Keheley walking along Atlanta Avenue at 3 p. m.

Other witnesses recalled that Keheley remarked, right after his capture by bloodhounds following the Berry flogging Thursday night off Ridgewood Road, "I might as well have jumped in the river and got it over with." 4-22-48

A coroner's inquest will be held at 8 p. m. today. City detectives, meanwhile, were mapping a thorough probe of the case.

It was commonly believed that Keheley had been considering turning State's evidence in the trial of other indicted flog suspects in the "Black Raider" roundup. Sol. Gen. Paul Webb said Keheley's death will not interfere with trial of other accused floggers. The Constitution

Keheley had admitted membership in the Ku Klux Klan in a statement to Capt. Fred Bradford, of Fulton County Police. Keheley claimed he and other captured "Black Raider" suspects flogged Berry because they understood he had been drinking excessively and had not supported his wife amply.

Keheley was later named by Lawrence D. Fortner, fifth man captured in connection with the Berry flogging, as one of four men who took Luther Martin from his home and threatened him with a flogging for "drinking too much."

Keheley is also one of four men charged with the March 31 lashing of Roy Gravitt, of 968 Pulliam St. The Grand Jury of Fulton County has Keheley under indictment for assault with intent to murder of Gravitt and impersonating an officer, together with another assault with intent to murder charge for the Berry whipping. Atlanta, Ga.

Sheriff E. V. Hilyer, of Troup County, filed warrants for Keheley and four other men in the flogging of Mary Gates and Lyman Gates, Negroes. Times.

Sheriff Hilyer's action came Wednesday, shortly after he reported arrest of E. W. Mitchell, Decatur brick mason, in connection with the Negro floggings.

Mitchell, linked to the Black Raiders, was charged with kidnaping and assault with intent to murder before being returned to Troup County. Mitchell also was booked with a similar charge in Fulton County. 4-22-48

Youth Lays Abduction To Maskers

The Constitution
Atlanta, Ga

Four masked "Black Raiders" were nabbed Thursday night after Fulton County Patrolmen Q. F. Hayes and A. D. Trollinger said they rescued a severely beaten man from their lashings.

The quartet had propped their partially unclad victim against a tree off Ridgewood Rd., near the intake for the city waterworks and were flogging him with a heavy, three-inch leather strap, the officers said. Fri 4-16-48

One was captured at the scene, police said, and bloodhounds were used to track the other three.

Cards and placards bearing the words "The Black Raiders" were found in possession of the seized men, police reported. Black hoods and a .38 caliber pistol were also seized.

Hayes and Trollinger said that two automobiles parked at the side of the road, with cloth coverings rigged up to cover tags on both vehicles, attracted them to the scene. The Constitution

The bloody victim was leaning against a tree, his feet spread nearly three feet away from the tree trunk, the officers said.

James Charles Berry, 23, of 605 Oliver St., N. W., told his rescuers that a man who knocked at his door earlier in the night had presented a badge, similar to that worn by policemen, and ordered him to "come with me." Fri

Berry, married and a father, said he was forced into a car and driven to the scene of the flogging. His captors made him remove his shirt and lower his trousers before attacking him with the strap, he charged. Atlanta, Ga

Police listed his attackers as Ed W. Mitchell, of Decatur; Sherman C. Keheley, 935 Fern Ave., S. E.; Robert B. Ellison, 3381 Lawrence St., S. E., and Manuel S. Comboia, of 1786 Marietta St., N. W. Comboia is a brother-in-law of the beaten man, police said.

Assistant Chief E. G. Fitzgerald said warrants will be sworn out charging the four with assault and battery. Chief Neil Ellis promised a thorough probe to determine the cause of the beating.

The beating left Berry too badly hurt to sit down to answer questions, police said. 4-16-48

RALPH McGILL

Who Killed Sherman Keheley?

For 31 years Sherman C. Keheley had worked at one job. He did it well. He had a family. He was, I am sure, a good man. I never knew him. Nor did I know anyone who did. But I would wager that he was a kindly, well-intentioned man. I am sure, too, that he regarded himself as a sincere Christian man.

He is dead now, presumably by his own hand.

He left a note, the gist of which was, "I can't go on like this any more."

What had happened to Sherman C. Keheley?

What had come to this man, who for 31 years had worked steadily at a job, earning the respect of his associates and his employers?

What happened to him that he should suddenly come to the point where his life was bitterness on his tongue and he was willing to take his own life?

Let us examine it.

Accuse But before examining it, let me say that we approach it in no accusing mind for Sherman Keheley.

But for those who really killed him—for those who for their own mean and greedy, pig-like minds did drive him to his death—let us have great accusation and scorn.

Who are these men whom we accuse?

They are those in the Ku Klux Klan who took this man and, because they were before him in regalia and in relative power, persuaded him to head up the flogging squad. They, undoubtedly, must have made much of him, praised him, made him feel important.

Then came the inevitable end. He was caught.

And when he was caught the tissue of lies which the Ku Klux Klan had created came tumbling down and this otherwise decent man saw that he had been led and betrayed by scheming, guilty, vicious men who had corrupted him and his decency to serve their mean and evil ends.

Damascus So, this man Keheley, when he saw what had happened; when the scales fell from his eyes on this terrible road to Damascus, could no longer bear to face his family and his friends, he took the only way out that he saw before him.

We can be only superficially critical of him.

There was a better way. He could have faced it and told all he knew. He could have stripped the foolish mask from the faces of the petty little Kluxers whose black-guilty souls and corroded minds had seduced him into doing their foul and dirty work. But, it is likely they ran whining to him. They may have threatened him with death.

Playing God Someone had sent him out to whip men who—in the judgment of the men behind the masks—had been selected for a display. These persons like to play God and sit in judgment on their fellow man.

They had whipped two veterans, both white. These veterans, whatever their sins, and the criminals who sat in judgment on them had said it was drinking, are white as snow in innocence compared with those who ordered the beatings.

These veterans had at least served their country.

The Klansmen serve neither their country nor their God, but evil. Their oath itself is a lie, so they beam with falsehood.

They had whipped others, including a Negro or so. But, as always, as the Nazis demonstrated, once the lash is used they have to go on to more severe things. So, one veteran received a back injury, so terrible was the attack.

I imagine that when Sherman C. Keheley appears before the judgment seat he will be forgiven. But a just God will not forgive those who flattered him and persuaded him to go. Those who sent him are responsible for his death.

Disease I have written here before that the Ku Klux Klan, and any organization like it, is a disease. It is a cancer. It shames and degrades, soon or late, any community that harbors it. It brings shame and sorrow to individuals.

This Klan has no more kinship with the original Klan of Nathan Bedford Forrest than a skunk is akin to a Maltese cat. Forrest abolished the Klan when it became a refuge for scoundrels and began to do criminal acts. If there is any manhood in the present organization, if it has any respect for the South, it will follow suit.

We must depend on our courts, our juries, our grand juries, and our police forces for protection. To say we need one of these other organizations is to admit we no longer believe in ourselves.

GEORGIA EDITORS

Where Does Talmadge Stand?

(Candler County News)

We believe the majority of Georgians are opposed to the Ku Klux Klan. We can't believe the majority of those citizens who support and rally around a democratic government such as we enjoy will truck with the facist-minded people who make up such an organization as the Klan.

It is refreshing to hear Gov. M. E. Thompson condemn the Ku Klux Klan as an organization as well as those sheeted individuals who make up its membership. It is right and proper that the head of our State Government should speak out against an organization that flouts our State laws and when it thinks it can get away with it makes its own laws and sometimes under the cover of a sheet enforces them.

It is also right and proper that those seeking the office of Governor of the State should condemn this organization and not by any commission or omission lend strength. But unless we have overlooked it Herman Talmadge has remained silent on this subject. Are we to assume he is sympathetic to the Klan? Or is he hoping to draw strength from both the Klan and its opponents? He is usually so quick to condemn some things and so queerly silent on others that we are anxious to know his views on the Grand Dragon and his hooded cohorts.

THE KLUXERS GATHER

The Grand Dragon of the Association of Georgia Klans, Dr. Samuel Green, gave his blessing to 700 new recruits to the secret order of white-supremacy last week. These Confederate patriots were initiated with the traditional ceremonies, bedsheets and burning crosses, and long-winded speeches about the necessity for keeping "Negroes in their place."

The Klan demonstration is regarded as the beginning of a new campaign to keep Southern Negroes away from the polls. Every effort is going to be made to deny the franchise to colored citizens by the Dixiecrats who feel their power threatened.

The Klan, unlike other subversive groups, seems to be exempt from interference by the authorities, federal or state. No one in the nation has any doubt about the motives and the purposes of the Klan. It exists to deny Negroes, Jews and Catholics full citizenship in the country. Now that the Dixie Democratic leaders have bolted the Democratic Party, we may expect more Klan activity than we have seen in the past generation.

Their efforts, however, are doomed. It is freely acknowledged in the South that the Negro citizens are no longer afraid of the night-shirt gang. The responsible Southern whites are ashamed of the Klansmen and would like to see them silently fold their tents and steal away. A radical minority of anti-Negro extremists in Dixie, however, is going to be silenced. Only the resolute march of Negroes to the polls on election day can still their voices and redeem the underprivileged South.

THE WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

By Drew Pearson

WASHINGTON, April 10.—Minutes from K. K. K. meeting, Klavern No. 1, Atlanta:

Grand Dragon Samuel Green decreed that all Klansmen must return their robes to their Klaverns. Some Klansmen have been wearing robes to functions without permission, Dr. Green warned, but now all exalted cyclopses have been given orders not to let anyone wear robes without the grand dragon's approval.

A recording was played of the grand dragon's speech at Gainesville. The record was poor and hard to understand. The grand dragon, however, seemed to like to listen to his own voice.

Another cross-burning scheduled for Stone Mountain. Date to be announced later. Expected to be quite a show. Meanwhile a parade and cross-burning are set for Augusta, Ga., April 13.

The grand dragon let loose quite a blast at Governor Thompson.

"The next Governor of Georgia is going to be a white man and one who believes in white supremacy," he said. Seemed to think that the Governor was against the Klan.

Ga. Klansman Sent to Prison for Flogging

ATLANTA — The maximum sentence, three years imprisonment, was meted out to R. B. Ellison, Ku Klux Klansman, when he admitted that he flogged two men because "they did not support their families."

Judge Bond Almand pronounced sentence on Tuesday. Six other defendants are awaiting trial on the same charge.

One Commits Suicide

Ellison who was identified as a Klansman by other "Black Raider" defendants, asked the judge for leniency so that "women and children in the State would know that someone is interested in their welfare."

Atlanta Paper Cautions Four Who Want To Fight Klansmen

Montgomery Advertiser Mont, Ala
Wed-12-8-48

ATLANTA, Dec. 7—(AP)—Four citizens made it so plain today that they were angry at the Ku Klux Klan and the Fulton County police that the Atlanta Journal felt obliged to issue words of caution.

The citizens, including Methodist minister, J. K. Brown, asked the Journal:

"Since we do not want the K.K.K. out here in our community, and since we cannot count on protection from the county police, is there anything wrong in taking care of our community ourselves?"

The Journal printed the letter and replied editorially: "If the question is a suggestion of violence against Klansmen, we say that such violence could not be extenuated (approved)."

The four wrote that when others objected to the Klansmen's presence and called county police "one was arrested and the others told either to go home or go to jail."

They added that "in about an hour three motor policemen came at the head of 50 cars of Klansmen.

Wed 12-8-48

"To see such an organization being protected by policemen, whose salaries are being paid by our tax money," they wrote, "is too much."

Fulton Police Chief Neal Ellis commented: "It is our duty to be anywhere there is a parade . . . Looks to me like it was better for the police to be there to observe what was going on than off somewhere else."

Ellis said the only man arrested the night of the parade, last Saturday, was booked for driving while intoxicated.

The Journal said Ellis should investigate the reports of the four citizens and "if true, they call for severe disciplinary action."

stitute for the purge campaign of 1946," Governor Thompson remarked at a press conference.

He was referring to the Eugene Talmadge gubernatorial campaign in which Talmade supporters, in some counties, carried on wholesale purging of colored persons from the voting lists.

PRAISES PARADE BAN

The governor called on still more cities and towns to pass regulations against hooded parades. He praised city officials in Jackson and Conyers, Ga., for refusing permission for demonstrations by the Klan.

He disagreed with the suggestion made by Don West, a Georgia leader in the Wallace-for-President movement, that the governor should send patrolmen into communities holding elections in order to insure the voting rights of all citizens, white and colored.

The chief executive said local elections should be just as free from state interference or control as from Klan intimidation.

CITES FREEDOM

"If ever a citizen should be free it should be in a voting booth," Governor Thompson said. "He should have neither Klansmen nor State Troopers looking over his shoulder.

"Besides," he added, "I haven't heard of anyone being actually refused a ballot at the polls if qualified."

From Albany, Ga., it was reported that the city council there had passed an ordinance prohibiting the meeting, assembly or parading of persons wearing hoods or masks.

Mayor Pro Tempore Richard Hobbs proposed the ordinance, while Mayor J. W. (Taxi) Smith indorsed the proposal which was carried without opposition.

Governor Sees Election Eve Purge For Ga.

Atlanta Journal
Sat 12-11-48

ATLANTA, Ga.—(NNPA)—Election eve intimidation of colored voters by the Ku Klux Klan is the 1948 pattern for purging them, Acting Governor Melvin E. Thompson charged last week.

It appears that during 1948, intimidation of voters by the Ku Klux Klan is being employed as a sub-

Race-Mixing Hit By Ultimatum From Police

Memphis Press-Scimitar
Sun 12-12-48

KKK Posters Found At Meeting Place; Negroes Trailed

MILLEDGEVILLE — (SNS) — A group of 36 Negro delegates, including the presidents of the three state Negro colleges, were subjected to intimidation and harassed out of town here Wednesday night while they were attending a scheduled two-day council meeting of the University System of Georgia.

The delegations, comprising of persons from each college and including President Aaron Brown, of Albany State college; C. V. Troup, of Fort Valley State college and James A. Colston, of Georgia State college, and the college deans had been invitted to the meeting to discuss needs of their units.

Upon hearing that Negroes were attending the meeting, the Chief of Police informed the body that the segregation laws must be kept, disallowing the Negroes and whites to assemble together.

The Negro presidents, in turn, were said to have held a separate meeting among themselves.

At the close of Wednesday night's session Dr. Guy Wells, President of Georgia State College for Women, and Chancellor Raymond Paty said they were told that rumors existed which claimed that the Negroes and whites were eating and sleeping together on the GSCW campus.

A quick denial came from the two educational leaders who said they had disclosed the rumors to the Negro presidents and advised them to handle the matter with extreme care.

Sat 12-11-48

While the Negro delegates were quartered in Negro homes, unidentified white men were said to have visited them in cars, directing flashlight beams onto their automobile licenses. When the delegations pulled out, the intimidators reportedly followed them out of town, honking their car horns and continued to play their flashlight beams about the departing cars.

Thursday morning small KKK posters were said to have been found on the auditorium and office doors of the host school.

The meeting was scheduled to end Thursday afternoon.

The WORLD TODAY

By George S. Schuyler

Too little and too late!

"The Klan will not permit the people of this country to become a mongrel race." KKK Grand Dragon, Dr. Samuel Green, speaking at the Ku Klux cross-burning ceremonies at Wrightsville, Ga. The Klan's numbers are too little for this job, and besides it is 300 years too late!

Sat 12-11-48

NEGRO SUPERIORITY? **There are 800 Negroes registered to vote in Johnson County, Ga., of which the metropolis of Wrightsville is the county seat. The number of white registrants is 5,600, and they seem to be scared to death of the power of the Negro vote!**

Pittsburgh Pa

Commentary on the "collapse" of capitalism in accordance with the Marxian thesis on the progressive impoverishment of the toiling masses: U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics figures show average weekly earnings of factory workers have gone from $11 in 1913 to $51 in 1948. In terms of what the money will buy, the average worker's real wage is $22 compared to the $11 of 1913.

* * *

THE SECOND ANNUAL report of the President's Council of Economic Advisers shows capital investment (tools, etc.) per worker in the U. S. rose from $2,115 in 1879 to $4,051 in 1946. During the same period the REAL WAGES of unskilled factory workers rose from 27 cents per hour to $1.11 per hour. By contrast the Russian worker's REAL WAGES have markedly DECREASED since the Reds took over in 1917.

* * *

The South's anti-Truman revolt is growing, as indicated by the defection last week of South Carolina, Tennessee and Mississippi. It will not lose Mr. Truman any Negro votes when it is known that one of his bitterest opponents is that staunch defender of white supremacy, E. H. Crump of Memphis.

* * *

IN CONTRAST there is a strong upsurge in Virginia against Governor Tuck's anti-Truman bill now before the Legislature. In North Carolina there is none of the hysteria over the Truman plan noted elsewhere. The ruling last week of the Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals on bus travel removes at least one subterfuge used to terrorize Negro travelers refusing to bow to jim crow. Inauguration by Chicago realty interests of a policy replacing racial covenants in "mixed" areas is also a marked advance. So also was the House Appropriations sub-committee's vote to cut off substantial Federal aid funds to States not offering equal employment and educational opportunities.

* * *

American Newspaper Guild's Richmond (Va.) local is charged by Negro members with discrimination. They were "discouraged" from attending the union's annual party because of "some feelings" about racial mingling, the union offering to bankroll a separate Negro party to save white members from "embarrassment." In Norfolk the Guild has a jim crow local. Is this labor liberalism?

* * *

REBUFFED by the New York State CIO and the United Auto Workers last week, the Wallace third party movement has decided to make a determined bid for Negro votes by nominating colored candidates for big posts in large Northern and Eastern communities. Simultaneously William Z. Foster, head of the American Communist party trumpets: "The Wallace party is the Communist party!"

* * *

Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia is properly irate over the Red proposal that Italy be given trusteeship over her former African colonies. He says such would be an act of interracial injustice, and a threat to the security of Ethiopia. Well, well! Who's imperialist now?

May Sue Georgia Kluxers

Atlanta Journal
Sat 12-11-48

(Special to The Courier)

ATLANTA, Ga.—Georgia's capital and political circles were in a dither last week over the resurgence of the Ku Klux Klan and the official reaction of Acting Governor M. E. Thompson in the case of manhandled newspaper-men.

While Governor Thompson tossed the full weight of the State law enforcement machinery into the investigation of the manhandling of two newsmen and a photographer of the staff of the Columbus (Ga.) Ledger-Enquirer, Daniel Duke, Atlanta lawyer and former Klan-busting Assistant State Attorney General, announced that he had been hired by a group of citizens to see if Wrightsville Negroes have legal basis for damage suits against the KKK and venom-spitting Grand Dragon Green.

Duke declared here: "I am studying the facts and the law. If it is determined that Federal statutes have been violated there are more persons than

groups when, after your investigation, there is evidence they violated any State law."

Maynard Ashmore, publisher of the Ledger-Enquirer, had wired U. S. Attorney General Tom Clark, asking for action after two of his reporters and a photographer had been manhandled by the Klan. The men, Jim Bellows, Carlton Johnson and Joe Talbot, all white, said they were forced to drink liquor until drunk and then drugged, while covering a Klan meeting. In addition, the men said they were forced to pose for indecent pictures.

The circulation manager of the Ledger-Enquirer, meanwhile resigned his post after the reporters declared that he was among the Klan crowd.

The Klan Is a Cancer

Add the fine, pleasant city of Milledgeville to the list of communities that are learning the hard way that the Klan and its philosophy are a civic cancer.

The big brave boys burned a cross in that city Monday night. This profane use of the cross of the Savior, who died for man's sins and left behind the lesson of the Christian ideal, is itself an indication of the depraved insolence of the Klan. But, happily, the decent people are not afraid of it.

We are left wondering at the lady physician who left the meeting called to discuss the health problem of the State schools because the Negro college heads were seated all together in the center of the room. That seems to have been segregation as desired. We wonder too, if the scientists of the Klan have discovered that all germs, too, are white and colored and that germs that attack white children in Georgia schools will not attack colored children.

Let the businessmen and religious leaders in all communities think it over—what new business would wish to invest in a community terrorized by its lawless elements?

The Klan is a civic cancer—it always has been—it always will be.

Tere Moore Is Unafraid

Baldwin County Klansmen seem to have been lower intelligence quotients than the hooded order's usual average, if such a thing is possible.

A few weeks ago Milledgeville's masked morons brought national notoriety on Georgia when they frightened away the heads of several of the Negro schools in the University System attending a conference of the State's institutions held annually for a number of years.

At that time the grounds of one of Georgia's historic institutions, the beautiful old Governor's Mansion, now used as the GSCW President's home, were desecrated when hoodlums burned a cross thereon.

A similar cross was burned Sunday night on the lawn of Jere Moore, Editor of the State's oldest newspaper, The Milledgeville Union-Recorder. Mr. Moore had had the audacity to criticize, in his last week's edition, the practice of shooting into Negro houses, a pastime in which the brave bigots of the Klan apparently have engaged.

Mr. Moore, who served his country with distinction in the Pacific theater throughout the recent war, is, of course, unintimidated by such cheap theatrics.

Having previously engaged in battle with a lot of stinking, stupid submorons, self-acclaimed a superior race, Mr. Moore has seen the Klan's kind before.

K. K. K. Complains

GRAND DRAGON GREEN of the Ku Klux Klan is still worried about leaks from inside his organization.

Speaking at Klavern No. 1, Atlanta, Ga., the week after elections, the grand dragon wrung his hands and once again cautioned Klansmen to be careful about leaks.

"I have to talk frankly in these meetings," he said, "but I might as well call Drew Pearson before I come to the meeting and give him the information. For next day he gives it out to everybody from coast to coast. The Associated Press and United Press are both calling me about it next morning while I am eating breakfast."

The grand dragon went on to say that sometimes he thought some of the men he had been relying on were talking too much to their friends, and that confidential information had leaked out that way.

"I have given out false information to people under suspicion, thinking maybe I would hear Drew Pearson mention it on the radio," confessed the grand dragon. "Then I would know I had the right man."

However, this strategy failed. So he put special markings on printed literature to suspected members, thinking that it would get into print. However, this failed also.

In conclusion, he said, he just didn't know what to do about leaks from supposedly confidential Klan meetings.

Klansman Ransom then criticized Pearson for telling his radio listeners that Ellis Arnall, former governor of Georgia and a bitter enemy of the Klan, might be the new secretary of the Army in the Truman cabinet.

At Midnight There Was a Call

RALPH McGILL

It was just after midnight. I had finished packing and was lying down in my hotel room in St. Paul, Minn., wishing sleep would hurry up and come because I was to be called at 5:30 to get an early aircraft from St. Paul to Chicago, and thence to Atlanta.

The telephone rang. It was a St. Paul reporter.

"This is going to be embarrassing to you," he said, "coming as it does on the heels of your speech. But we want to ask you about the Ku Klux Klan forcing the presidents of the Negro institutions in Georgia to leave a university meeting."

Well, there I was, lying there a long way from home and I had to give answers to something about which I had just learned.

A few hours before I, had asked the indulgence of a large audience of several hundred, including the Secretary of the Treasury, and had said I wanted to depart from my text to talk a little bit about the South.

I got a later call from Minneapolis, across the river, and I tried to explain to them that what had happened since I had said—I am still proud of the real South—decent people, white and colored, who are honestly trying to be good citizens; who are working and saving and trying to give their children a better chance than they had; who are not full of hate and fear, but who have confidence in themselves.

The next morning I bought papers there and in Chicago, and the story was there. What happened at Milledgeville was so stupid; so obviously a product of dim-witted, infantile evil little minds, that people in States where nothing like that ever happens can understand it. They simply can't comprehend that sort of stupidity. And I must confess I find it difficult, too.

Another Symbolic

Anyhow, following hard on the shooting of a Negro in Montgomery County for voting, according to the Sheriff, comes this act of interference with a meeting of the Board of Regents. And again the nation shakes its head and wonders why one State seems to have so great a share of that sort of people. It was symbolic, in a way, the Klan should have interfered with an educational meeting. Because the philosophy of Ku Kluxism stands for spiritual and mental darkness.

We will have to weather a period in which stupidity and lawlessness will from time to time appear. The Dixiecrats are objectionable to many who know what they mean. To many more they are accepted in a distorted manner. Henry Wallace has been cleverly used by the Communists to create trouble.

The Kluxers fall for the Communist tricks. Right now no one is working harder to help the Wallace ticket than the Kluxers. The Milledgeville boobs made a lot of Wallace votes. We learn as we progress—slowly.

But, I am still proud of the real Georgia and the real South and proud, too, to say so.

South Shame

I told them I was proud of the South and of my State. I told them of the fine people who shared every good wish and desire for good will Americans in all other regions had. I told them the people of the South were for civil rights, even though we disagreed with the methods proposed by the Messrs. Truman, Dewey and Wallace. I had talked of our progress and our desire to have our farmers make incomes as high as those of Minnesota and Iowa and the other great States of the Middle West. I told of our determination that our children, one day, should have as much an opportunity in school as theirs. But, most of all, I agitate it; the asked them to believe that despite occasional evidence to the contrary the people of the South were not willfully mean and violent, but were as eager to make a great America as they.

And then, two hours later, there I was with a query about the Ku Klux Klan at Milledgeville, Ga.

I told him I knew he had an edition to make, and asked him to say that the people of Georgia were ashamed of it and repudiated it, as they had other similar events. I told him that those who engaged in the stupid affront to decency and the name of the State, were the usual assortment of mentally-arrested, paranoiac jerks and oafs to be found in any community, St. Paul included. I explained that the three Negroes were much more valuable Georgians than the whole membership of the

Klan: In Macon, a child provided a KKK breathtaker

State Negro Educators Harassed From Meet

The Atlanta Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.
Sat 9-18-48

Constitution State News Service.

MILLEDGEVILLE—Unidentified white citizens have been charged with chasing a group of Negro educators out of the State's historic "Old Capitol" City at the halfway point in the University System of Georgia's scheduled two-day Council meeting on the Georgia State College for Women campus.

Sat 9-18-48

Ku Klux Klan stickers were found the next morning on the doors of the auditorium and on office doors, GSCW President Dr. Guy Wells reported.

Chancellor Raymond Paty and Dr. Wells, both of whom were present, said the Wednesday and Thursday Council meeting had been set for administrative officers and academic committees of all the University System's units, "as has been the custom annually since 1933."

A joint statement from Dr. Wells and Chancellor Paty included the following:

"The Council meetings have always included all units of the System, including the three Negro colleges in the System.

"The Chancellor of the University System called the meeting as is his regular custom. The Georgia State College for Women was host for those attending, keeping the white delegates in the dormitories and feeding them in the college dining room.

Sat 9-18-48

"Arrangements were made for all Negro representatives to stay in Negro homes of the city and eat in the Negro restaurants of the town. There was no violation of Southern behavior pattern in regards to the races unless sitting in the same room with the Negro delegates for the meeting is such a violation.

"During Wednesday evening we were warned by the local Chief of Police and the judge of City Court at the close of the session that many wild rumors were being circulated to the effect that the Negroes and whites were eating and sleeping together on the campus and that a demonstration of disturbed citizens might take place unless these rumors were corrected.

"I made a statement," Dr. Wells said, "of all the facts to these men that the rumors were incorrect; that we were not violating accepted tradition. We also saw the three Negro college presidents and acquainted them with the situation and expressed the necessity for extreme care in handling the matter. After due thought, they said they believed it was best for them and their representatives to withdraw from the meeting. We asked them to stay, because the meeting was too important to be broken up by wild rumors.

"During the night the Negroes did leave, however, and reported at the Negro homes where they were staying that they had visits by cars which drove up, getting the numbers of the tags on the Negro cars, and that lights were flashed all around. They claimed they were harrassed out of town by cars following them and blowing horns and flashing lights on them.

Sat 9-18-48

"The next morning, small Klan posters were posted on the auditorium and office doors of the college.

"Chief of Police Frank Broome did everything in his power to handle the situation in an orderly, lawful way."

Dr. Wells and Chancellor Paty said the conference was to discuss such problems as health conditions in Georgia among Negroes and whites. Calendars for the regular session of the schools were adopted and plans for improving the individual units were discussed, Dr. Wells added.

Ku Klux Klan Spreading Over Nation

By Stetson Kennedy
By Federated Press

Imperial Wizard Sam Green of the Ku Klux Klan has promised his Kluxers that the Klan will "ride as never before" and that "there will be something doing every night" after Herman Talmadge takes over as governor of Georgia.

"We are sitting on top and nothing can stop us," the Wizard boasted at a supposedly secret meeting of his "Mother Klavern of the Nation" in Atlanta. "'Hummon' has promised to cooperate with the Klan at all times, and he is a man of his word. If you ever need to call on him, just tell him you are a friend of mine."

Wizard Green went on to announce that he has reactivated the Klan's Kavalier Klub flog squad, which has been more or less dormant during the past two years since the death of old Gene Talmadge.

GREEN SAID he would "personally attend to" a complaint that drinking fountains in Atlanta's Municipal Airport were not Jimcrowed.

The Wizard was also evidently sore about a telegram sent from the Anti-Nazi League to the Justice Department calling for an investigation of his "top secret" pre-election instructive to all Klansmen to vote Dixiecratic. The Dixiecrats, the Wizard said, are "for white supremacy and against equality—the same principles the Klan has always fought for."

He complained that "Jews and foreigners" have contributed over $240,000 to organizations to combat the Ku Klux Klan" and he went on to boast: "The Klan was here yesterday, is here today and will be here forever."

"Fiery summonses" are being sent to Kluxers all over the country to attend another mass "naturalization" ceremony to be held Dec. 10 in the Macon, Ga., Municipal Auditorium, Green said, predicting that 10,000 robed Klansmen will turn out for the event.

★

MAYOR LEWIS WILSON of Macon has been "converted," the Wizard claimed, and has sanctioned the mass demonstration and parade, portions of which are to be broadcast over a local radio station.

This may explain why a protest I wired Wilson from the Anti-Nazi League on Oct. 26 has gone unanswered.

To whom it may concern: The blight of Ku Kluxery is spreading rapidly throughout the nation. At a secret meeting Nov. 15, "Chief A—-Tearer" Cliff Vittur of the Kavalier Klub reported that the Klaverns are now active in New York city, Detroit, New Jersey, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania and California—not to mention most of the southern states.

Labor unions would do well to add a strong counter-Klan clause to their memo to President Truman on civil liberties.

Klan Endorses Talmadge Race

Atlanta Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
Sat. 8-14-48

The Ku Klux Klan has broken its silence regarding the 1948 gubernatorial campaign with an emphatic endorsement of Herman Talmadge.

The announcement was made at a fiery demonstration at Milledgeville, while a flaming electric cross backgrounded Grand Dragon Samuel Green, who shouted "The Ku Klux Klan of Georgia indorses Herman Talmadge for Governor of Georgia on the platform he is running on."

Sat. 8-14-48

The not un-expected announcement came while Governor Melvin E. Thompson was pleadng in Waynesboro: "Shame on any individual who for selfish political purposes would create discord in our state."

THOMPSON SEEKS UNITY

Gov. Thompson, ignoring the appeal of the rabble-rousing hate organization, insisted that "The issue of unity is more important than Thompson or any election."

While Governor Thompson was appealing for unity in state affairs 500 white-robed, masked Klansmen and a large group of spectators, were gathered in front of the Baldwin County Courthouse.

The outlawed Klan had staged a motorized parade to the courthouse from the fair grounds.

Recent cross-burnings in Rockdale, Bibb, Twiggs, Dodge and Crisp counties on the eve of primary elections were interpreted as a link between the Klan and Talmadge These attempts at violence and intimidation was believed a movement to frighten Negroes from voting. The campaign, after running a course died out when Negroes flocked to voting centers despite the threats.

SEEKS FAIRNESS

Despite the tempo of the campaign conducted by Klan-supported Talmadge Democrats, Gov. Thompson was asking voters "If you hired an acting cook and she did a better job than your regular cook, would you fire her? No you wouldn't and I hope I receive the same fair treatment from the people of Georgia on September 8."

8-14-48

In answer to the contention of Talmadge that the farm folk would elect him governor, Gov. Thompson said: "No one can say I am going to carry Washington County, but a committee said that Davisboro has the best soil for the nursery, so it was established there where it should have been instead of somewhere else because of politics."

White Ministers Assail Klan Demonstrations

The Leatherneck And Informer
Sat. 8-14-48

VALDOSTA, Ga. — (SNS) — The Ku Klux Klan was censured by the Valdosta Ministerial Association for its election eve cross burnings in this city.

The Association includes in its membership virtually all of the Protestant pastors of Valdosta and vicinity.

Columbia, S.C.

In a bristling resolution the ministerial group protested against the recent demonstration which came on the heels of Gov. M. E. Thompson's final speech in the Georgia gubernatorial campaign. Governor Thompson's legal voting resident is Valdosta.

Sun. 10-3-48

The KKK, following the Governor's final appeal for votes surged through the Negro community in an obvious attempt to tterrorize Negro voters and scare them from the polls last Sept. 8.

The full text of the resolution passed by the Valdosta Ministerial Association reads as follows:

Sept. 28, 1948

"In view of the fact that the Ku Klux Klan has recently invaded the city of Valdosta on the eve of a State election and has staged a dramatic "cross-burning" in the open streets of one of our Negro sections with the very obvious intention of creating intimidation and fear, we the ministers of the Valdosta Ministerial Association, desire to set ourselves publicly on record as emphatically condemning any and all such demonstrations. We feel that such occurrences constitute a real threat to democratic liberty and to the peace and decency of this community. We, therefore, call upon all citizens, including our city authorities, to regard such demonstrations in the future as essentially lawless and directly un-American. The fact that such disgraceful scenes are becoming common in various parts of our State, even to the point of seeking to intimidate our chosen leaders of higher learning, forces upon us the necessity of facing this menace openly and courageously."

Klan to Burn 'New' Crosses In Ceremony

Courier Journal
7-23-48

Atlanta, July 22 (AP)—The Ku Klux Klan will unveil a new, longer-burning cross atop Stone Mountain tomorrow night and veil 1,000 new members with the hood of the "invisible empire."

At least those are present plans, Grand Dragon Samuel Green, Atlanta, said today.

The improved cross will make the old wooden one obsolete, he reported.

This new cross, said Green, will be constructed of 2-inch pipe and will rear 42 feet above the granite of the mountain. The old crosses were surrounded by, coated with gasoline and kerosene, and ignited. They burned beautifully, but too fast.

Courier Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Hence, Dr. Green said, the new cross will have quart cans of oil attached every 12 inches and are expected to provide light for 5 to 6 hours.

The great "Klonvocation," said Dragon Green, "will also bring out between 8,000 and 9,000 robed Klansmen to welcome their new brothers."

7-23-48

The initiates will be sworn to uphold the laws of the empire, protect Southern womanhood, and support the contention that the white race is superior. They also will be asked to support the Constitution of the United States.

KKK Gives Its Blessings To Talmadge

Courier Journal
Louisville, Ky.
Sun. 8-29-48

MILLEDGEVILLE, Ga — —(NNPA)— The Ku Klux Klan has endorsed Herman Talmadge for governor of Georgia.

Standing beside an electric cross in front of the Baldwin county courthouse, Grand Dragon Samuel Green last Friday, in a dramatic gesture, threw his arms into the air and announced the Klan's support of Talmadge's candidacy.

"The Ku Klux Klan of Georgia endorses Herman Talmadge for governor of Georgia on the platform he is running on," Dr. Green said.

Marietta, Ga.

A group of 500 white-robed, masked Klansmen and a large group of spectators stood on the courthouse grounds listening to Green's address.

The Klansmen met at the fair grounds and then staged a motorized parade to the courthouse.

Green's announcement came as no surprise. Recent cross-burnings in Rockdale, Bibb, Twiggs, Dodges and Crisp counties on the eve of primary elections were interpreted as a link between the Klan and Talmadge. They were believed to have been an attempt to frighten colored voters away from the polls. The campaign of intimidation died out, however, when colored voters ignored the cross-burnings and flocked to the polls.

KKK Cross Burns At Residence Of White Educator

Atlanta Constitution
Sat 10-2-48

MILLEDGEVILLE, Ga.— The Ku Klux Klan here last week followed its terror tactics against three Negro college presidents by burning a fiery cross on the lawn of one of the state's leading white educators, Dr. Guy H. Wells, president of Georgia State College for Women.

Three persons found the five-foot cross burning Monday night near the entrance of Dr. Wells' residence.

The incident undoubtedly grew out of the fact that Dr. Wells was host to the recent sessions of the Council of State Colleges from which three Negro college presidents were forced to flee by the hoodlumism of the KKK.

Wallaceite Hits Klan-Policemen

The Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.

"Ku Klux Klansmen on Atlanta's police force" are blamed in the latest blast from S. R. Baldwin, Henry Wallace campaign manager with headquarters in New York, as being responsible for arrest of 15 Progressive Party petitioners here on disorderly conduct charges.

Baldwin quoted reports from Stetson Kennedy, Klan exposewriter, as saying the police campaign was worked out in Atlanta Klan klaverns and that a majority of Atlanta policemen are Klansmen.

Police Chief Herbert Jenkins said he would make no further replies to Progressive Party propaganda.

Baldwin reiterated his charges of a "press blackout" on the part of The Constitution in reporting the incidents.

100 Women Take Klan Oath in Ga.

Atlanta Journal
Atlanta, Ga.
10-23-48

AUGUSTA, Ga. (ANP) — Another sordid chapter in the history of intolerance was added here recently when the Ku Klux Klan inducted a chapter of at least 100 women in special ceremonies.

Dr. Samuel Green, grand dragon of the Georgia Klan, issued the charter. He would not give the exact number of women in the new group, but said that the minimum membership requirement of 100 was achieved three months ago.

Dragon in Boastful Mood

Green expressed extreme faith in the Klan's aims and its popularity here. He said that "some day, I'm going to have a parade right down Broad St." He had once been challenged that such an event would never take place.

Baltimore, Md.

He boasted that a recent magazine article in Collier's Magazine, although anti-Klan, has helped the organization to skyrocket in membership, and claimed many Americans had complained of the "unfair treatment" of the Klan.

He boasted also that the Klan nominated Herman E. Talmadge in the recent Democratic primary election for governor. Of 110 Klan counties, he said, 108 voted for Talmadge. The other two voted for Gov. M. E. Thompson because of the colored vote, he added.

Denies Kidnap Charge

Green said that neither Herman nor his race-baiting father, the late Ol' Gene, was a member of the Klan. Speaking of the recent kidnaping of Progressive Party worker here, he declared:

"The Klan had nothing to do with it, to my knowledge, but if it had, the charter would have been revoked."

$1,000 Reward For Identity Of Cross Burners

Atlanta Daily World
Fri 12-24-48

MILLEDGEVILLE, Ga.—(SNS)— A $1,000 reward has been posted by a "Citizens" Committee here in an attempt to discover the person or persons who burned a cross in front of a home of a local editor recently

The group agreed on the reward during a meeting called to discuss what they called "recent outbreaks of lawlessness."

The editor at whose home the cross was burned was Jere N. Moore who had assailed the Ku Klux Klan for certain alleged terroist acts against Negroes here.

Commonly known as a hotbed for KKK activity, Milledgeville was the center of attraction in Georgia recently when two Negro homes were flagrantly fired into by white men.

One Negro was forced to leave the town for fear of losing his life. His cafe was burned to the ground following his departure.

Klan Stages Parade Here

The Atlanta Constitution

The Ku Klux Klan staged a uniformed parade through northwest Atlanta last night.

Atlanta Ga.

Forming at Howell Mill Road and Chattahoochee Avenue, the white robed klansmen got into automobiles and drove away. They motored to the Johnson Road section and from there moved on to Rockdale Road and the Rockdale Park Negro section.

Large crowds of Negroes gathered on the streets as the cars streamed by.

Sun-12-5-48

One motorcycle was in the parade.

Klan-Parade Upshot Stirs Jury Probe

Atlanta Constitution

Wed-12-15-48

Ellis Urges Law Requiring Permits In Fulton Areas

A Fulton County Grand Jury yesterday began investigation of an incident growing out of the Ku Klux Klan parade in the northwest section of Fulton County about 10 days ago.

The investigation resulted from protests of the Rev. Kenneth Brown, Pastor of the Underwood Methodist Church, and Atlantan Frank Bettis against staging of the parade.

The Rev. Mr. Brown had protested publicly that County Police "appeared to be participating actively in the parade."

Fulton County Police Chief G. Neal Ellis appeared before the Grand Jury here yesterday to present his side of the case. Ellis insisted he assigned police "to keep down disorder." The Police Chief told the Jury he "wished there was a law which would require his permission before parades were staged in unincorporated areas of the County."

Ellis, Sol. Gen. Paul Webb, and County Atty. W. S. Northcutt also appeared before the Grand Jury yesterday.

Wed-12-15-48

Bettis, according to earlier statements by the Rev. Mr. Brown, had been warned by police to keep away from the parade after he protested the presence of Klansmen in the neighborhood. Later, Bettis was arrested at the corner of Northside Drive and Collier Road on charges of drunken driving and no driver's license.

Bettis said yesterday he had protested the presence of the Klan because he feared it would have a bad effect on sick relatives living near its starting point. The Rev. Mr. Brown said he protested because he was unalterably opposed to the Klan.

After the parade, Chief Ellis requested the County Attorney to draw up a bill for presentation to the General Assembly requiring paraders to secure permission from him for proposed parades in unincorporated areas of the County. He said had there been such a law, he would not have allowed the Klan to parade.

"Since there is now no law against parades," he said, "all I can do is to do my duty and police them. Had there been disorder at the parade or if someone had been killed in a traffic accident, I would have been derelict in not having men present. I not only had uniformed men, but plain clothes men there to see there was no disturbance of the peace."

Atlanta Methodist ministers yesterday appealed to City, County and State authorities to enact a law prohibiting public parades by masked persons.

Wed-12-15-48

Objects to Police in Kluxer Parade

Time Clergyman Klan Orders Protest

(The Associated Press)

Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 8.—A Methodist minister protested today police taking part in a Ku Klux Klan parade.

The Rev. Kenneth Brown, pastor of Northwest Atlanta's largest Methodist church and a wartime flying chaplain, said a Klan parade Saturday night was led by three motorcycle policemen.

Fulton county Police Chief Neal Ellis replied that he was tipped that the parade was going to take place and that he ordered police to "stay with the Klansmen to see that no law is violated.

"I was just performing my duty," Ellis said, adding that the Klansmen weren't masked.

"Aw, phooey!" retorted Brown in a battle of statements. "Nobody saw any faces out here except the faces of the people who were protesting. It's bad enough to have the Klansmen out here parading through our community, but the idea of our policemen participating in it is just too much."

Furthermore, the minister said, "not only did they lead the parade, but they saw to it that nobody interfered."

Klan 'Raider' Chooses Route Of A Coward

Chicago Defender

Caught Carrying Out Orders Of Hooded Outlaws

ATLANTA—This city is minus a citizen it could well afford to lose. He was a coward by day and by night. He could "give it" but couldn't "take it." So, caught red-handed as a flogger for the "Black Raiders," an adjunct of the Ku Klux Klan, he pressed a 12-guage shotgun to his side and blew himself out of this world. "Good riddance!" was the verdict of decent Atlanta.

The coward was S. E. Keheley, 58, a telephone lineman, who confessed that he led a group of four white men to flog Negroes in LeGrange, and several white men in Atlanta. He was trailed by bloodhounds and captured after beating Joe Berry, a white man, whom he and four others had lured from his home.

Sat-5-1-48

Names Comrades

Keheley, when arrested, named as his companions R. B. Ellison, E. W. Mitchell Jr., M. S. Combia, and Lawrence Fortner. All admitted that they are members of the Klan and its flogging crew, the "Black Raiders." They were indicted by the Fulton county grand jury and have been released in $5,000 bail. Keheley was out on bail when he went to his home, 979 Linam st., Southeast, last Wednesday, and killed himself. He left a rambling note to his wife indicating that the embarrassment of being caught and exposed as a "lawless hyena" had preyed on his mind. He had been rabidly anti-Negro and anti-Jewish.

Mitchell named Keheley as a member of the "Raiders" that went to LaGrange about a month ago and flogged Lyman and Mary Gates, colored, for being "sort of impolite to white people." Mischell said Keheley was the main user of the lash on the woman and came near beating her to death until they stopped him.

Blames Green

Sat-5-1-48

Keheley has been a close friend of Dr. Samuel "Cock-eyed" Green, Grand Dragon of the Georgia Klan, and attended the meeting in Wrightsville when Green said, "Georgia would run red with blood if any attempts were made to give the Negro civil rights." It is said that Green's lawless speeches, and his demand for riotous actions led Keheley and his crew on their flogging episodes. Since the "Black Raiders" have been exposed, Green has been attempting to convince Solicitor General Paul Webb that Keheley acted on his own behalf and not with Klan sanction.

Known among his Klan brethern as the "sly fox" and among the "Raiders," as the "Imp-of-Satan," Keheley, whose face bore a sort of sardonic scowl, planned to carry out a series of floggings to gain membership for the Klan, it is said.

Sat-5-1-48

Most Everybody Hates Us, Says Klan Wizard

The Constitution

Wed-11-3-48

Atlanta Ga.

Dr. Samuel Green, Imperial Wizard of the Ku Klux Klan, told a Georgia Tech student-reporter: "We don't hate anybody, but most everybody hates us."

In an interview with J. P. Blanks, of The Technique, Dr. Green said the Jews, Catholics and foreign-born were "mad" because they couldn't join the Klan. He said they wouldn't let him join the Jewish B'nai B'rith or the Catholic Knights of Columbus—and added: "It doesn't make me mad . . . but they are prejudiced because they can't belong to the Klan."

Wed-11-3-48

The interview with Green was prefaced with the note that it was one of series "with outstanding personalities on important issues of the day."

Ralph McGill, Editor of The Constitution, will give "the other side of the story" in the next issue, The Technique said.

demn the robe and hood activities of the Klan, until city police warned them against passing out the flyers.

At the YMCA across the street, anti-Klan demonstrators hung a Klansman in effigy out an upstairs window.

Grand Dragon Samuel Green denied Klan responsibility for the burning and told reporters: "Possibly Drew Pearson could tell you who burned them."

"BORE," NOT BURNED

Sat-5-1-48

Atlanta Ga.

Mills asked: "Who said the Klan is Christian?" "The cross should be borne, not burned," they stated, and "Do you worship a burning cross or a living Christ?"

On the main floor of the auditorium, 2,500 masked Klansmen and women stood to witness and take part in the ceremonies.

Following the approximately hour-long ritual, they unmasked for a barbecue. Newsmen were allowed to remain in the auditorium and sit at their table, even after the Klansmen had removed their disguises.

Students Give Klan Kicking Around, Kick in the Pants!

By JAMES EDMUND BOYACK
(Special to The Pittsburgh Courier)

MACON, Ga.—Three cross burnings designed to intimidate Negro residents were reported to police here Friday night, within one hour of a meeting in the City Auditorium where 400 "aliens" were initiated into the "Invisible Empire of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan."

The Klan meeting was held in Women's Society for Christian an atmosphere of tension throughout the city after a three-week battle in the City Council to pass an ordinance banning masked men from the streets, either for parades or meetings.

The fight was led by the Macon Telegraph and supported by the Convention of the Christian Churches of Georgia, the United Council of Church Women, the Macon Ministerial Association, the

Because of the city's contract with Grand Dragon Samuel Green for use of the city auditorium Friday night, the wearing of masks indoors was excepted from the ordinance.

It is expected that the Telegraph this week will move to have

Council include public build- in the barn.

THREE FEET HIGH

All three crosses were about three feet high with a foot and a half cross bar. All were made from the same type lumber and same size nails.

The second one was reported shortly after 10 P. M. in the Third Street Park, just across the street from Cassidy's Garage, one of the owners of which is W. J. (Billy) Cassidy, city alderman.

The final burning was discovered by the Rev. H. C. Anthony at 10:30 P. M. at 246 Plant Street, near the Tindall Heights colored housing project.

The hooded order is listed as "subversive" by the Department of Justice.

During the "naturalization" ceremonies the auditorium was picketed by Mercer students, members of the Young People's League for Better Government and church groups.

They passed out mimeographed handbills citing Scripture to con-

The "aliens" were led in by a big, soft-spoken Klansman, who drawled out military commands, to the men who wore dominoe type masks to conceal their identity.

They were told by Grand Dragon Green that the invisible empire demands ready hands and strong hearts and, men who have honor and will not lie.

They were asked a series of ten questions to which they replied in a weak "yes" chorus.

Green asked if they were full-bloodod white aryans, if they subscribed to the tenets of the Christian religion and if they placed the American Government above all others, and if they would always protect "white supremacy."

After several tours of the spacious auditorium the Klansmen-to-be halted, were placed in front of the altar and took the solemn obligation of a Klansman.

Green said that "despite efforts of the so-called Christians who opposed you, the Klan has been given the right to meet here." He referred to Maconites who attacked the Klan during the recent hearings on the anti-mask ordinance.

The Klan leader, declaring God segregated the races himself, said: "No law can be passed by Truman, the Congress or the State Legislature that can supercede God's law."

He closed his address with a thundering declaration that "the Klan will never accept equality."

Macon Woman Reports KKK Stickers on Door

MACON, Sept. 1—(AP)—A Macon white woman who works at a Negro eating establishment, reported to City Detectives today that she found several Ku Klux Klan stickers plastered on her front door when she started to work today.

Detectives listed the woman said she workrs at the Mexico Way Negro eating establishment only as a "Mrs. Thornton." They on Fifth Street.

Detectives J. D. Newman and L. B. McCallum, who investigated, removed two of the stickers and took them to headquarters. They declined comment on whether they considered the incident a warning to the woman.

Spreading Klan Activities

There is not much point in raising the moral issue created in connection with the Klan parade in the neighborhood about Atlanta Saturday night. The sort or people who make up the Klan membership and who follow their parades are not the kind who will or can be influenced by moral suasion. They thrive best on misfortunes and sufferings on the part of others. So, they will not yield to the sort of pressure that is being exerted upon them by public-spirited citizens, for there are not enough of these to make a dent in the hard crust of hate and lust for violence and bloodshed, which inflame the souls of this crowd.

But something must be done to stop the Klan. It must be done at once, or else, the whole South is going to face an unteward danger which may bring disaster to Negroes and whites alike. But, from the lessons we have learned in the past months, particularly in Georgia, there is not much hope of local citizens being able to do anything about the Klan in the foreseeable future. Neither can the local people do anything to stem the tide of lynching and brutalities in the near future. Thus, from our standpoint, it will require another three or more decades before the South can even begin to think right on the issue of the Negro and his civil justice.

It should occasion no surprise, therefore, when we find such weak explanations as we heard this week for not being able to do anything about the demonstration Saturday night because there is no law controlling the Klan in the county. We have laws to cover every other conceivable crime or sin under the sun, save that of punishment for roving bands parading through Negro communities, disturbing the peace. If there is no law for this, then we should have a law, and having got such a law, then we must make sure that we have a corps of officers who will be expected to execute the law or else hand in their badges. That should go for all in the police department, starting with the Chief himself and going on down to the lowest subordinate under him.

To do otherwise, then the Government must be prevailed upon to guarantee the safety and protection of life and limb, at least for all citizens of the South.

Fear Intimidations After Flareup Over Interracial Meeting

(Special to The Courier)

MILLEDGEVILLE, Ga.—The three Negro college presidents and their immediate administrative aides of the Georgia University system were forced last week to leave a scheduled two-day conference of officials when hoodlums using Klan tactics and KKK stickers harassed them out of this middle Georgia town.

The demonstrators objected to their mingling with white school heads, although the administrators had been meeting in such councils since 1933.

Driven out of Milledgeville and off the campus of the Georgia State College for Women were: Presidents C. V. Troup of Fort Valley State, James A. Colston of Georgia State in Savannah, and Aaron Brown of Albany State College, together with eleven aides from each college. Arrangements had been made for them by the university chancellor, Raymond R. Paty, to stay in Negro homes and eat in Negro restaurants during their stay here.

WARNED BY POLICE

The local police chief and city judge warned the school men last Wednesday evening that "rumors were being circulated and that a demonstration might take place unless these rumors were corrected."

The school men decided they should withdraw from the meeting, even though white members of the group asked them to stay, it was reported.

When they left during the night, they reported that they were harassed by cars following them to the edge of town and taking their license tag numbers.

According to reports, the first indications of objections to the mixed audience in the general meeting of the personnel of committees came Wednesday afternoon at a committee meeting on student health.

WOMAN DOCTOR LEAVES

Mrs. Shelton Heirs, white college physician at the women's school, reportedly walked out of the committee when she noted that there was not the "slightest pretense of segregation." She told Dr. Lombard Kelly, dean of the medical school in Augusta, presiding officer, that she could not remain in a meeting where Negroes were sitting in the middle of the room with white people all around them.

Following the departure of the Negro school men, small Ku Klux Klan posters were found on the doors of the college auditorium and office next morning.

GREEN DENIES THREATS

A large Klan membership is reported in this area. Grand Dragon Samuel Green said in Atlanta that the KKK had nothing to do with any violence or threats in connection with the Milledgeville incident. He asserted that "such a meeting of white and Negro educators seems to me a violation of State jim crow laws and Southern traditions."

Baldwin County, of which Milledgeville is the county seat, voted heavily for white supremacy candidate Herman Talmadge in the recent gubernatorial primary election.

An Outrage That Must Be Settled

This is about the Frank Bettis case.

He was arrested after asking a Klan parade to move away from his neighbor-

If he is we trust the policemen involved will be fired, summarily.

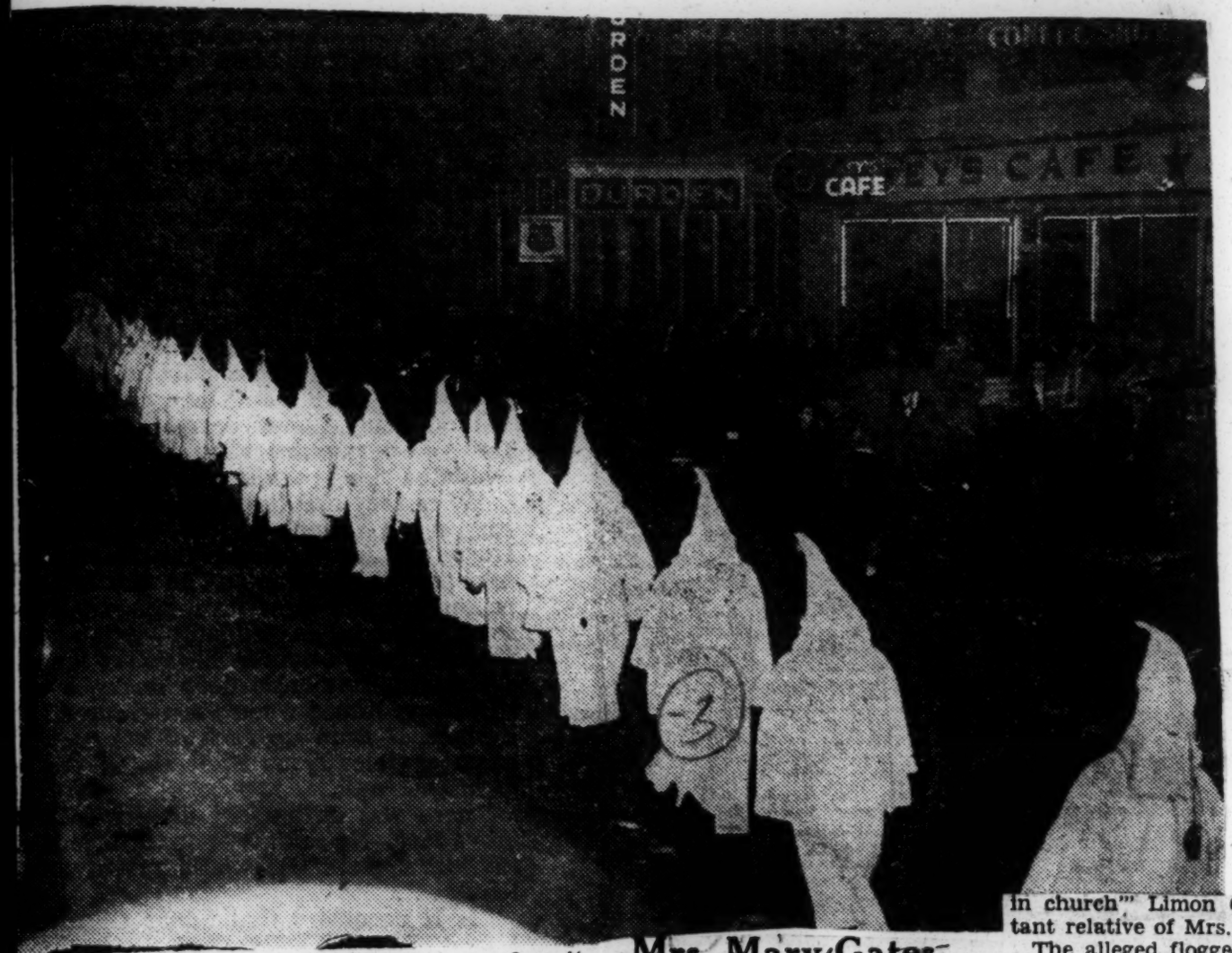
We then hope that Bettis files suit against the officers and the County for false arrest.

The police are paid by the taxpayers —not by the Klan. Bettis' rights are those of any other honest, decent citizen. If the Klan believes in Americanism, as it professes, let it testify for Bettis. That is the only way it can prove it. We even think it was an outrage.

We trust the Grand Jury will go into it very thoroughly. We even think the Klansman to whom Bettis protested should be embarrassed and harassed in this fashion becomes more and more should come forward in his behalf.

Instead, young businessmen who are of standing were with Bettis. There were many other witnesses. The man is known as a religious worker who does not drink. Yet, after his protest, he was arrested

We believe Bettis will be turned loose with the apologies of the court.



The Ku Klux Klan, which used to confine its energies to scaring colored people and making them stay away from the polls or otherwise bowing to white supremacy edicts, is now finding out it can't get away with it anymore. This photo, taken recently in Swainsboro, Ga., shows a handful of klansmen who postponed a visit into the colored section when it was learned there were some veterans living there who had learned how to shoot while in the Army!! Over 180 other klansmen who were to join in the march were scared off and didn't show up for this parade through Town Square. In Rossville, Ga., a white high school coach, who had been threatened by klansmen, armed himself with the pistol he learned to shoot while in the Marines and they didn't show up. Looks like the Ku Klux Klan is skating on very thin ice when it sets out to get veterans who've met the enemy overseas and are not afraid of him here at home!

Photographs Used In Naming Of 'Terrorists'

Mrs. Mary Gates, Limon Gates Point Out Same Men

ATLANTA, Ga.—(SNS)—Fulton Solicitor General Paul Webb said Wednesday that Mrs. Mary Gates of Troup county, identified five of the "Black Raiders" who flogged her about a month ago, accusing her of cursing a white woman.

Late reports disclosed that one of the accused floggers, S. C. Keheley, 58, of 979 Linon St., S. E. shot and killed himself at his home Wednesday evening.

Mr. Webb said Mrs. Gates identified the Klan-linked terrorists from about 30 photographs submitted to her.

Those identified were: S. C. Keheley, R. B. Ellison, E. W. Mitchell, Lawrence Fortner and Frank Brand.

The same men had been identified by another Troup county resident, Limon Gates, who said the men warned him he was "to active in church"' Limon Gates is a distant relative of Mrs. Gates.

The alleged floggers identified by Mrs. Gates have also been identified and indicted for flogging two white persons.

FIVE INDICTED

Ellison, Keheley, Mitchell, Fortner and M. S. Comboia were indicted on attempted murder charges in the reported flogging of a 23-old white construction worker, Joe Berry, who was beaten last Thursday.

Ellison, Keheley, Brand and Fortner were also indicted for attempted murder in the reported flogging of a white war veteran, Roy Gravitt who said he was taken from his home by the men who posed as detectives. Additional indictments for impersonating officers were returned against the alleged raiders.

Mitchell had been released but was re-arrested when identified by the Gates of Troup county. He and others identified by them will face additional indictments when the Grand Jury meets Friday.

Thus far six men have been round ed up in the flareup of flogging terrorisms in the state. The Solicitor's office reports that several other arrests are expected. It has been said that speedy trials for the accused are forthcoming.

Girl Wallaceite Tells Of Kidnaping by Klan

In Augusta, Ga., Police Chief C. J. Wilson said Progressive Party workers' charges that they were beaten and herded out of town by Klansmen were being dismissed as a "hoax." But a Georgia Bureau of Investigation agent conceded the raid did occur—though not precisely as the Walla supporters described it. (*Story on Page 15.*)

Here is the eye-witness story of Rhoda Gay Ascher, one of the abducted canvassers:

By Rhoda Gaye Ascher

(Copyright, 1948, New York *Star*, Inc.)

Last Sunday, I tasted the U. S. brand of fascism Henry Wallace talks so much about. I met it in Augusta, Ga., while working with four others, as a Progressive Party volunteer worker.

It was just getting dark as we heard a banging on the door of the home we were staying in while canvassing for votes in the Negro quarter of the city.

It was about 4:30 p.m. I went to the door, and there stood a group of men on the porch. Two had already broken through the window even while I was asking them who they were and what they wanted.

One of them shoved forward a hand as big as a ham, pushed me in the face and knocked me over. He stood over me brandishing a gun and cursing.

Felled by Gun Beating

In a moment, the house was full of men, all armed either with pistols or revolvers.

Forbes Hill came running down the steps when he heard the commotion. Forbes, who is from New York, is a slender, undersized boy about 22. He grabbed a baseball bat, and one of the men reversed his gun and repeatedly banged Forbes on the head. Another one picked him up when he fell, and held him under his arms while a third tore at his shirt.

Forbes fell back, with blood streaming from two wounds on his forehead.

Annie Mae Leathers, an Atlanta worker for Wallace, came screaming from the kitchen. "Who are you?" she kept saying over and over to the men.

One of the crowd grabbed her by her hair and slapped her across her mouth. "Shut up, you dirty New York Communist," he said.

Betty Anne Kimmel, who is from Chicago, was trying to run up the steps. She was grabbed by two men, and they pulled her down the while she was kicking and screaming.

Then two more took Dorothy Dean, who is from Washington, D. C., pulled her arms behind her and began to push her out the door to the porch.

Other men began to break windows and smash furniture. One of them kicked over a floor lamp, while I saw still another man pick up a vase and throw it at a picture. There was smashing and crashing going on while they hustled us out of the door.

(Josiah Gitt, publisher of the York (Pa.) *Gazette*, owns the Augusta house at which the canvassers were staying. He is Pennsylvania state chairman of the Progressive Party.)

Saw Cars, Armed Men

When they shoved me out on the street I could see lines of cars stretching all around the block. The house is a corner one, and as far as I could see up both streets, there were cars and men standing by them with drawn guns. Seems as though nearly everybody carried a gun out in the open.

I could see a police car with two cops near it standing on the sidewalk and laughing. I called to them, but they only laughed at me.

The men put me in one car with Forbes, who was unconscious. He bled all over my dress when I put his head on my lap. I was worried about him. I thought he was dead.

One of the men said to me: "We want you to get out of town and stay out. I think we're goin' to lynch this boy here," he said, pointing to Forbes.

I said nothing. Then he went on: "You bastards just came to town to stir up the niggers. We'll fix you."

Driven Ten Miles

The five of us had been assigned to hand out Progressive Party literature to parishioners of Negro churches, and I guess word got

about. The ministers were very co-operative and I'm sure it wasn't them.

The men drove us about ten miles along a red dirt road, then dragged us out. One of the men from a rear car came running with a rope. It was a kind of clearing. In the big, circled space were about 50 more cars, I guess. Maybe more or less. Men were standing around them smoking. It was like the kind of dream you have when you're a kid. It wasn't real. But funny, we weren't scared.

The men talked about lynching Forbes and then one said: "The chief ain't here. Let's let it ride."

They told us to get along the road and said: "The Klan tells you to get out and stay out. We don't want any Jew Communists stirring up the niggers."

Got License Numbers

We walked about five miles to Grovetown. It was dark, but we got two license numbers from the cars. We scratched the numbers on our arms to remember them. We sort of helped Forbes by taking turns at dragging him. We were afraid they would come after us, the hot-headed ones. After all, we were four women and one helpless boy.

You'd laugh to hear that one of the license plate numbers we scratched down turned out to be that of an Augusta police car.

There's not much more to tell. We phoned party headquarters in Augusta and Jim Barfoot, who is running for governor of Georgia on the Wallace ticket came and took us in.

Forbes spent three days at the University Hospital in Augusta. I guess he won't be well for a long time.

The FBI in Augusta said it wasn't kidnaping because they didn't take us across a state line. I don't know what they call it down there, but it's fascism to me.

Am I going back down there again? You bet your boots I am. Who's afraid of the Klan?

Ga. Voters Pay No Mind to Kluxers

ATLANTA (NNPA) — Two Ku Klux Klan parades, reportedly scheduled for Conyers and Lawrenceville, Ga., the night of March 23, to frighten colored voters away from the polls the next day, failed to materialize as State Patrolmen stood by to "watch."

Acting Governor Melvin E. Thompson, in an "off Record" statement, had told newspaper men he was sending patrolmen to the areas to see that there was no violation of State laws if the parades were held.

Dragon's Denial

Dr. Samuel Green, grand dragon, denied that Klan parades were scheduled in Rockdale or Gwinnett Counties where primary elections were held last Wednesday. Conyers and Lawrenceville officials, however, said they had been approached for permission for the Klan to stage demonstrations.

Mayor J. T. Hicks of Conyers, said two men, whom he did not identify had asked him for "written permission" to burn a cross on the courthouse lawn. The Mayor refused permission.

They also approached Sheriff W. L. McCart and hence refused.

The Klan has staged pre-election parades within the past several weeks. Following such a parade at Wrightsville, no colored person voted the next day. Gwinnett County (Lawrenceville) has 12,000 registered voters, 800 being colored. Rockdale County (Conyers) has 5,600 voters, 240 being colored.

In Perry, Ga., Dan Duke, former Assistant Att. Gen. of Georgia tied the Ku Klux Klan and the Georgia Farmer's Market Bulletin, into one package last Tuesday and labeled it an aid to Communism and to preponents of Federal civil rights legislation which is anathema to Southerners.

Praises Voters

The Atlanta Constitution last Wednesday urged colored people in Georgia to continue to vote in spite of the Ku Klux Klan. Under the caption, "Ignoring the Hooded Hoodlums," it said: "Despite the efforts of bed-sheeted bigots to intimidate them, a representative number of colored citizens voted in the Twiggs County Primary Monday.

"We glory in their spunk. The cross-burning on two consecutive nights immediately proceeding the primary was a despicable action, unworthy of a Christian State in a democratic nation. We trust the example which Twiggs County citizens who voted set, will be followed in every county in the State.

"Georgia citizens can and will continue to take advantage of the privilege — and the responsibility —of every qualified citizens to have a voice in government. In doing so, they will have the encouragment and support of every American really worthy of the name.

CHILD WEARS KLAN GARB—A small girl wearing the traditional Ku Klux Klan regalia, makes her appearance at the Macon, Ga., city auditorium during a mass initiation of 400 candidates into the robed order. About 150 women were among the masked group which looked on. Associated Press wirephoto.)

Pastor Talks With Ellis on Klan Parade

Fulton Police Chief Neal Ellis yesterday emphatically denied charges by a Methodist minister that the County Police "participated" in any way in a Ku Klux Klan parade staged just outside the Northwest Atlanta City limits Saturday night.

The Chief conferred with the minister, the Rev. Kenneth Brown, in the study of the Underwood Methodist Church, of which the Rev. Mr. Brown is pastor, and explained his position.

Ellis said he would ask the General Assembly to pass a law requiring permits for parades in unincorporated areas of the County.

The Rev. Mr. Brown said that he and others had protested the invasion by Klansmen of his community.

"It looked like the police were actively participating in it," he said. "They are here to protect people. Police had flashlights signalling and motor cops were ahead of the parade of some 50 automobiles containing robed Klansmen."

The Rev. Mr. Brown, former 40-year-old bomber group chaplain, also said he thought the presence of the Klan in his community was a disturbing influence and that the police should have dispersed it.

"The police were there acting on my orders," said Chief Ellis. "I heard there was to be a parade and checked the law to see if it was illegal. I found it wasn't and assigned men to keep the peace and see citizens were protected. If there had been any disorder and the police weren't there, then citizens would have reason to criticize me. I merely did my duty. I shall certainly enforce all laws as long as I am Chief. I am not a Klan member and have no affiliation whatsoever with the organization."

Macon Dentist Visited by Klan

MACON, Ga. — A cross was burned last week in front of a house owned by Dr. Dewitt D. Walton, prominent Macon dentist. Men purported to be members of the Ku Klux Klan stormed the property belonging to the dentist after rumors that the house was to be rerented to a Negro family. The house previously had been occupied by white persons. The Macon Fire Department extinguished the fire of the cross.

It was revealed that nine small stickers bearing the letters "KKK" and a picture of a "white-robed" rider on a horse, were pasted on the front door of the house.

Police promised a further thorough investigation of the cross-burning.

Black Raiders Flog Woman

(Special to The Courier)

ATLANTA, Ga. — Alerting the Georgia Bureau of Investigation to check and investigate Klan activities throughout the State, Gov. M. E. Thompson last Saturday revealed that the Ku-Klux Klan had planned a series of floggings in Georgia with pointed intentions of terrorizing residents.

Governor Thompson's action was taken about the same time that Fulton County Solicitor General Paul Webb had disclosed two Negroes, a man and a woman, Limon Gates, and a distant relative, Mrs. Mary Gates, had been severly flogged about three weeks ago by a terror gang known as the "Black Raiders."

The Raiders have been linked to the Klan in spite of the fact that Grand Dragon Green, Atlanta, has denied connection of the terrorists with the "invisible empire." According to Webb's information, the reason given for Gates' flogging was that he "was a little too active in a Negro church."

Gates is a school bus driver and a farmer near LaGrange.

In addition to the Gates flogging, the Fulton County grand jury last Friday indicted five white men in connection with the brutal beating of a 23-year-old white youth. Their victim was Joe C. Berry, a construction worker.

6,000 Attend Klan Initiation At Macon Hall

Constitution State News Service

MACON — More than 3,000 masked members of the Ku Klux Klan last night attended the initiation of 400 persons into the organization at public ceremonies held here at the Macon City Auditorium.

An estimated 3,000 spectators in addition watched the ceremonies from the balcony of the auditorium. Dr. Samuel Green, Grand Dragon of Atlanta, presided.

The Klansmen included 16 busloads from Chattanooga, Atlanta, and Augusta.

Among the robed members in the group were approximately 200 women, and a number of small children.

A man listed as Jim Boyack, free lance writer, of New York, was asked to leave the meeting because Dr. Green said "he was a member of the Anti-Nazi League."

At the conclusion of the ceremonies, Dr. Green said, "Who said the Klan was Christian. Do you worship a burning cross or a living Christ?"

RALPH McGILL

The Constitution

Mr. Thompson And the Record

Sat 11-23-47

This is an essay about the Ku Klux Klan.

A lot of Johnny-Come-Latelys are having things to say about it. I see where Acting Gov. M. E. Thompson is exchanging telegrams with the anti-Nazi League on the subject. Indeed, as I climbed wearily off a plane on return from Louisville, where I had talked to a convention, I found the Acting Governor had without reason reached out and attempted to be critical of something I had said. What I had said was that, while the Klan was gaining in membership and was a sucker trap and a refuge for Fascist-type sadists of the sort who were Hitler's sluggers and concentration camp murderers, all thoughtful Southerners were thankful for the imperial wizard who didn't have the capacity for organization to make a powerful force of it. Therefore, the KKK wasn't really important. So, Mr. Thompson said, "Look, he is praising Green."

I am sorry Mr. Thompson did this, because he now makes it necessary for me to devote not merely this one but several more columns to him and his record, which I assure you I did not wish to do, but I despise petty fraud and hypocrisy, especially when cloaked with piety. He is an embittered man, unable to take defeat.

Trouble It was just a little while ago that he got exposed as having been present at a Ku Klux Klan rally and barbecue and was trying to explain it away. He came to me for help. I told him to admit he was there and if he wasn't a Klansman and hadn't taken one of the gold membership cards, as had former Governors, to say what he thought about the Klan. I then wrote the statement for him, and it was published and sent out by the news agencies. And a fine, ringing statement it was.

You see, I had been writing and speaking against the Klan for a good 20 years, and it came easy and natural to me.

It was his very first public utterance against the klan, and he was so fresh from accepting its hospitality that I could understand why he had to get someone else to write what he wanted, and ought, to say.

Truth It was shortly after this that the Acting Governor came back to the editorial offices of The Atlanta Constitution and took an hour to say that all reports that he was going to move Glenn Phillips out of the revenue office were false and inspired by wicked persons. Furthermore, he said that the man he was reported to be planning to name wouldn't do and that he knew that to be a fact as well as the next one. Therefore, he said he wanted it known the reports were false and entirely false.

Three days later he fired Glenn Phillips and swore in the man he had said wouldn't do.

That did it as far as I was concerned. It was no longer possible to believe him. I knew I wasn't going to lead any charges for Mr. Thompson and I knew that his feet of clay reached right up to his ears. So, I remained scrupulously out of the campaign. Every time he talked about good government and operated the road contract business, I laughed right out loud. Roads, in fact, will be the subject of some future essays. Obviously he needs someone to edit his stuff. It was not without reason that the man who wrote Mr. Thompson's speeches during the recent campaign and handled all public statements agreed to do so only after he had exacted a pledge that he would be the last man to see what the Acting Governor was going to say before it was said. He didn't trust the Acting Governor to go it on his own. It was a wise precaution.

The KKK Well, anyhow, the anti-Nazi League has, or had until recently, a Communist doing some of its research into the Klan. His reports were part truth and part old-fashioned thrillers. So, I don't pay too much attention to them.

The KKK isn't a factor. It is a potential for violence. But it lacks any real central authority, and there is no one around with the imagination or the will to make it into a Fascist Black Shirt mob.

Sat Nov 23-47

What the people like M. E. Thompson don't realize is that the members of it would think exactly as they do and react as they do if there were no such thing as the KKK. It is symptomatic of a deeper illness and of the failure of governments to meet issues. Thompson ought to know that going to a Klan barbecue one day and denouncing it later on only when it is made public that he was there is one of the reasons the Klan has contempt for him and for other Governors who were members or accepted gold cards from them. I have more regard, for example, for the intellectual honesty of Doc Green than I have for those who privately sought his favor and then turned on him when exposed.

The way to go after the Klan is the same way to go after the Communists, Columbians or others. Keep the spotlight on them. And work always at curing the basic causes of such organizations.

Citizens Fight, But

New KKK Group Rears Head in Ga.

The Courier

Sat 6-19-48

BRUNSWICK, Ga.—Local citizens, alert to protect their racial rights and fearful of intimidation by the Ku Klux Klan, appealed last week to the City Commission to ban activity by a recently organized local branch of the KKK, set up here June 2 by Grand Dragon Samuel Green. The city said it had not authority to halt the Klan.

The Brunswick Wallace-for-President Club and some ninety-three citizens, among them many Negroes, sent a petition to the city asking that the Klan group be barred from functioning here. They were told that to outlaw Klan meetings would be a violation of the Constitutional right of freedom of assembly.

"WHITE MAN'S STATE"

Grand Dragon Green said the new klavern would have some hundred members shortly, and that its aim would be to "make Georgia a white man's State." He reiterated the Klan's stand to uphold race segregation and the "white" primary.

Pittsburgh, Pa

Ironically amusing was his further avowal that the Klan group favored improving educational and economic opportunities for Negroes.

The petition to the city was signed by Dr. W. A. Patterson, a local physician. City officials intimated they would refuse to allow the Klansmen to parade here if such a request is made.

ELECTION EVE IN GEORGIA

ATLANTA (NR correspondent)

Pittsburgh Courier

Those Georgians who can't abide Herman Talmadge watched the woolhatters and bed-sheeters closely last week in apprehension that a race riot might be deliberately provoked to assure a Talmadge victory in the September 8 gubernatorial primary.

The resurgent Ku Klux Klan, which has long regarded the election of Talmadge as its main job in '48, has made good its goal of an active klavern in each of Georgia's 159 counties. The mass Klan initiation on Stone Mountain on July 23 was attended by 10,000, nearly half of them active members. A follow-up demonstration in Rossville on August 21 drew another crowd of 7,000.

Mon 9-6-48

The KKK has in recent months staged over a dozen masked parades and cross-burnings the night before county contests. Innovations consisted of Klan propaganda dropped from airplanes over the Negro sections of Columbus, small white coffins labeled "KKK" left on Negroes' porches at Swainsboro and Sandersville, and scorched bits of paper mailed to Mt. Vernon Negroes, reading: "U beter stay at work tomorro—kkk."

Most of the crosses have been burned on courthouse lawns. One of them bore a placard: "This cross burned with county fuel oil." Effectiveness has ranged as high as 100 percent: at Wrightsville not one of the 400 registered Negroes dared to vote, although the Negro population of that county is 4,000.

Concurrently with the KKK's terror campaign, Talmadge registrars purged Negro voters from the lists on such grounds as "bad character." One, upon being pinned down, admitted he had challenged the Negroes on the basis of their "bad handwriting." In some counties as many as 1,300 Negro registrants were stricken from the rolls at a time. Soon the statewide total passed 20,000. It was finally halted after former Assistant Attorney General Dan Duke (who had handled the Klan and Columbian prosecutions) filed suit on behalf of eight clients for a half-million dollars.

In the supposed secrecy of the Klan klaverns it is being said that if Talmadge wins, "no Negro will ever vote in a Georgia Democratic primary again." Talmadge himself has said publicly, "Frankly, the people of Georgia do not have too much confidence in the Supreme Court. If we can't have a lily-white primary, we want it as white as we can get it."

Sat Nov 13-48

The Klan Rides Again

Weekly forays of the Ku Klux Klan about South Carolina are getting to be a general thing. For more than one month now, the hooded order, bolstered by Georgians, has staged parades and demonstrations in central South Carolina,, ostensibly, to impress Negroes and to recruit whites for membership.

This new riding of the Ku Klux Klan in South Carolina fits in with the campaign of the Dixiecrats, whom the hooded men are supporting. But it is also directed against Negroes, who are now trying to vote their convictions at polling places. Reports are that this present day crop of klansmen is trying to be honorable, confining itself presently to impressive visits with white men deemed 'out of line," although the tarring and feathering of a Negro may not be considered beyond its sphere of activity.

The klan rides again, they are saying in South Carolina, and with some official backing if we have judged the minds of Negroes properly, this new riding will in no way deter them from their exercising of the full right to voting and other rights of the first class citizen.

Georgia's KKK Gets Ready to Put 'Hummon' Talmadge in the Saddle

This is the first of two articles on the resurgent Ku Klux Klan in Georgia.

By STETSON KENNEDY

Kennedy

All Georgia is on edge this week-end, for fear the bedsheeters and woolhatters may stir up a race riot to assure Herman Talmadge's victory in the race for governor next Wednesday.

A rash of election-eve cross-burnings and masked parades by the Ku Klux Klan is expected to break out over the state, as the Kluxers wind up their determined drive to put Talmadge in.

The resurgent Klan, which has called the election of "Hummon" its "No. 1 job in '48," has made good its goal of an active klavern in each of Georgia's 159 counties before the election. Some counties now "boast" as many as five klaverns.

Fully 10,000 Georgians turned out for the mass Klan initiation which I attended on Stone Mountain, July 23, over 3000 of them in full regalia (myself included). A follow-up demonstration in Rossville, August 21, drew another crowd of 7000.

In Georgia, the traditional fountainhead of Ku Kluxery, the postwar Klan threatens to regain its stranglehold.

Claiming organized activity in 30 states (I can vouch for 20), the Kluxers have been greatly heartened by all the prejudice aroused by the Dixiecrat movement.

Rep. John Rankin's (D., Miss.) easy victory on August 24, when he polled more votes than his two opponents combined, is a bad omen. With Rankin to spout the Ku Klux line in Congress, the Kluxers feel that if they can elect Talmadge governor of Georgia they will be in a position to pull all the stops.

Klan dreams for reviving the Invisible Empire (which embraced 9,000,000 members after World War I call first for a campaign to sell the Dixiecrats the idea that the KKK is white supremacy's last best hope.

Determination on the part of die-hard white supremacists to keep Georgia a one-party, one-race state politically has long found expression in a three-pronged campaign to subvert Supreme Court rulings against the white primary by: 1) economic sanctions whereby Negroes with notions of voting are threatened with loss of jobs, homes, and credit; 2) mass purges of Negroes from the voting lists and, 3) Klan terrorism.

Georgia's purge pattern was developed back in the '46 campaign, when the late Ole Gene Talmadge was on the comeback trail.

The procedure is simple. Negro registrants, en masse, are sent sheriff summonses, requiring them to appear (at inconvenient hours) before registrars to "show cause" why they should not be disqualified for "illiteracy, criminal record, bad character," etc. Those failing to appear are automatically dropped from the voting lists.

In that purge of '46, the statewide purgee total eventually passed the 20,000 mark. When pinned down, some challengers admitted they had acted solely on the basis of the Negroes' "poor handwriting."

Finally, U.S. District Judge Frank M. Scarlett threatened criminal prosecution of those responsible for the purge. The *Atlanta Constitution* subsequently reported that "registrars, jittery over possibility of Federal prosecution, told Talmadge leaders they could not ban Negroes from the primary unless they swore to more specific evidence."

None of this stopped Ole Gene.

"The Federal Government can go ahead and crack its whip if it wants to!" he said defiantly, and in a radio speech went so far as to charge that the District Attorneys were intimidating white people!

"Maybe it would not be inappropriate to warn some of these fellows to be careful," he said, "since one of these days, in the not distant future, there is going to be one of the greatest house-cleanings of bureaucrats the country ever saw, now that Henry Wallace and his gang are on the run and the Rosenwald press is quaking in its boots!"

"Wise Negroes will stay away from the white folks' ballot boxes," he said, "for neither the U.S. Attorney nor Jimmy Carmichael (his opponent) will have a corporal guard to back them up!"

Ole Gene concluded by saying that if Negroes want to retain the "historic esteem" in which he said Southern whites have always held them, they would have to "stay in the definite place we have provided for them."

The KKK, though still baby-weak from having gone underground for the duration, also took a hand in that campaign.

At Fitzgerald, after 700 of the 963 registered Negroes had already been purged, notices were tacked on Negro churches reading:

"The first nigger to vote in the white primary will never vote again."

Despite this, 200 of the remaining 263 registered Negroes turned out to vote. In Royston, Greenville, and Lulu crosses flared, and were so effective in the latter town that Negroes not only refrained from voting, but did not even come into town to meet the mail train that day. In Savannah, poll masters kept Negroes standing so many hours waiting to get into Jim Crow booths that many gave up in disgust.

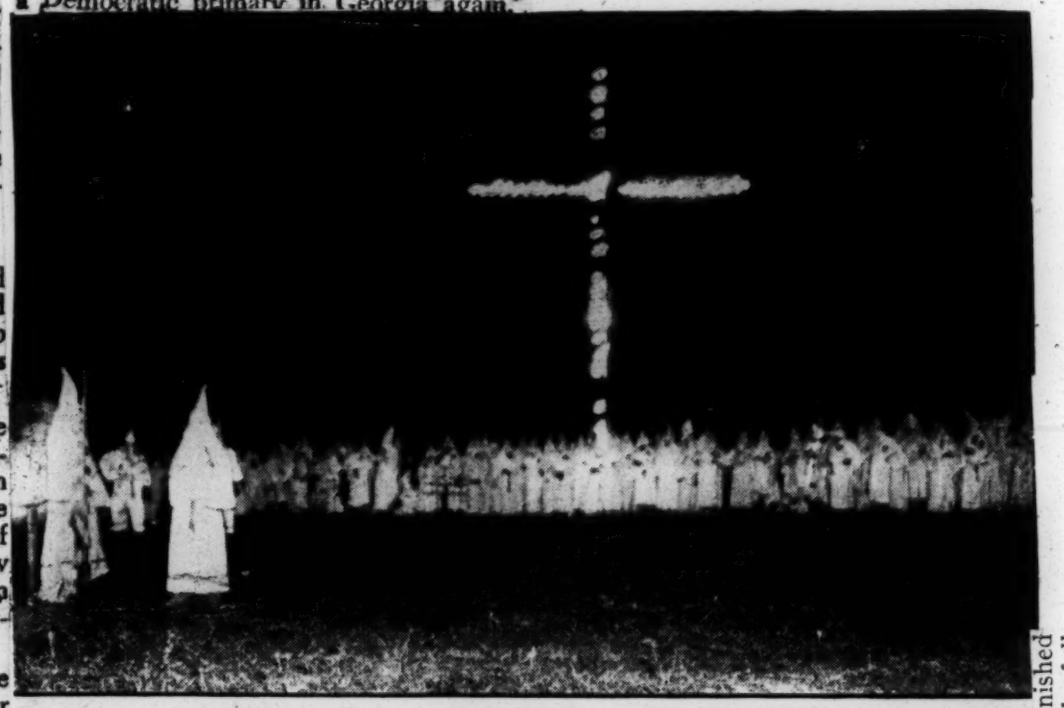
Since Ole Gene passed on to wherever it is that demagogues go, son "Hummon" has followed closely in his father's footsteps.

But during the two years since that earlier campaign, Federal Judge J. Waites Waring of South Carolina ruled out all the devices whereby Talmadge had hoped to resurrect the white primary in Georgia.

"Frankly," Talmadge commented, "the people of Georgia do not have too much confidence in the Supreme Court. If we can't have a lily-white primary, we want it as white as we can get it."

In the supposed secrecy of the Klan klaverns, I know it is also being said that if Talmadge wins "no Negro will vote in a Democratic primary in Georgia again."

THE BYLINE: Stetson Kennedy is a Southern newspaperman and magazine writer who became a Kleagle in the Klan to get the goods on it for his book, *Southern Exposure*. Another volume by Kennedy, *The Klan Unmasked*, exposing the postwar activities of the Kluxers, will be published in January. Kennedy covered the Talmadge putsch and Columbian trials for *PM*.



KU KLUX KLAN INITIATION (AT STONE MOUNTAIN)
"Blood would flow in the streets."

¶ Three thousand robed and hooded members of the Ku Klux Klan gathered in a field near Stone Mountain, Ga. for the largest Klan ceremony since 1924 (*see cut*). They fired up oil buckets hung on a cross of iron pipe, initiated 700 new members, and cheered a prediction by Grand Dragon Samuel Green that "blood would flow in the streets" if civil rights for Negroes were enforced in the South.

¶ Macy's, neatly fusing politics with haberdashery, offered its customers the Candidate Cravat—a one "rich, full-bodied rayon" bearing a picture of either Harry Truman or Tom Dewey.

¶ A brunette with a jealous husband got the Dade County, Fla. sheriff's office to give her a lie detector test, went home with a letter certifying that she had been a faithful wife.

¶ United Industrial Associates, Inc. reported that the average U.S. house & lot now costs $11,094—as compared with $4,599 in 1939.

¶ The sky over the U.S., which had been remarkably vacant since the last of the flying saucers wheeled off and vanished (TIME, July 21, 1947), was suddenly full of whizzing lights and large shining objects. A pair of Eastern Air Lines pilots saw the first—some kind of wingless plane with two rows of lighted windows and a plume of red flame at its tail. Then two CAA employees saw a "gigantic silvery ball" floating over Yakima, Wash.

Klan Manhandle Charge Stirs Press in Columbus

The Constitution

Atlanta, Ga

COLUMBUS, March 13—(AP)—The newspapers here grimly and openly declared war on the Ku Klux Klan Saturday night after three newsmen told of being manhandled — and worse — by members of the hooded order.

Pres. A. H. Chapman, of the Columbus Ledger-Enquirer Company, who has asked U. S. Atty. Gen. Clark to investigate this incident, said the three were reporters Jim Bellows and Carlton Johnson and photographer Joe Talbot. Sun. 3-14-48

The three, said Chapman, were attacked while covering a Klan meeting at Shiloh about 40 miles from here and were not only roughed up, but drugged. While they were drugged, said Chapman, "compromising" pictures were made.

These pictures, said Editor Bryan Collier, of the Ledger, showed Bellows with his trousers lowered and Johnson placed in "a compromising position."

In Washington, D. C., Gov. Thompson said that as soon as he returned to Georgia he planned to have the Georgia Bureau of Investigation enter the case, adding "I hope to have those who have violated the law prosecuted to the limit."

The Governor was in the Capital to fight the Civil Rights program proposed by President Truman. The Constitution

"Imagine my embarrassment," said Thompson, "just as I was talking against the necessity of any Federal rights legislation when newsmen called this to my attention . . . It cut the ground right out from under my feet."

Dr. Samuel Green, Grand Dragon of the Klan, said in Atlanta that he attended the meeting and there was no disturbance. He denied the accusations in full and said he certainly would have known about any pictures.

Even as Dr. Green issued his denial, Collier said a telephone call had been received from a Klansman offering to show Johnson the pictures. The Constitution

Johnson, said Collier, was forbidden to accept the appointment but did have a tentative agreement to meet the man Monday.

At Manchester, about 30 miles from Columbus, Police Chief E. T. Keevle said the three newsmen were arrested by a night policeman as they sat in a car on the outskirts of town and jailed on a drunk charge. They were released Saturday after posting bonds of $8.75 each. Atlanta, Ga.

Keevle would not say whether the three told him of being manhandled, insisting "you'll have to get that at the trial." 3-14-48

No date for the trial has been set, but Collier said the fight against the Klan "will begin right there." The Constitution

Chapman, in a telegram to Clark said the three were "violently mhanhandled . . . and given injections of what appears to be narcotics by a gathering of members of the Ku Klux Klan headed in person by Dr. Samuel Green." Sun.

Clarke said in Washington he "deplored the activity of the klan and would look into the Columbus incident to determine if any Federal Law had been violated." 3-14-48

He said he had not received Chapman's wire. Atlanta, Ga.

The three said they each had been forced to drink a pint of whiskey and that Klansmen told them if they didn't drink, they would be forced to do so.

Talbot said he twice was given injections in the leg and that Johnson was given a shot in the arm. Bellows said be became unconscious after being given the whiskey.

Collier said the three told this story: The Constitution

At no time did they attempt to conceal their identity at the meeting and while the Klavern was cross-burning Talbot made several pictures, one showing Dr. Green unmasked and wearing a green robe. Atlanta, Ga.

Abruptly they were seized and Talbot's camera taken and plates smashed. The camera was not returned. Sun. 3-14-48

The trio was taken to its car and here the pictures made by Klansmen using another camera.

Two Klansmen got in the car and started toward Manchester, another car following. Just outside the town the Klansmen abandoned the newsmen after carefully wiping the car off for fingerprints. Within a few minutes the local policeman appeared and arrested the trio.

Early Sunday Editor Bryan Collier, of the Columbus Ledger, disclosed that the newspaper victims of an alleged Klan manhandling had identified Hollis Cooper, Assistant Circulation Manager for the papers for 18 years, as one of those attending the Klan meeting at Shiloh about 40 miles from here. Cooper was confronted with the newsmen's statements and signed, Bryan said. Atlanta, Ga

Klan Grows

New York, N.Y. 1948

AUGUSTA, Ga.

The Ku Klux Klan initiated 125 new candidates at the City Park at a secret meeting last night. Newsmen were barred from a building in which the robed and hooded order installed new members. 4-13-48

A Plea From Gwinnett Klansman

The Constitution

A patriotic Georgian, who is a member of the Ku Klux Klan in Gwinnett County, has made contact with us.

He informs us that he is disturbed because the Ku Klux Klan, by its public parades and cross burnings, is giving support to the radical Negro organizations as evidence of the need for Federal legislation. Atlanta, Ga.

He is disturbed, too, that the Communists in Russia are giving reports on their radio to the Russian people about the Klan's activities. The Russians are being told about it as evidence of the "lawlessness in the United States" and as further evidence of the Communist line that the United States claims to democratic treatment of its people is a lie. Tues 3-23-48

That is true.

It also is true that the Communists in New York are being aided by the Klan in the South.

They have hurt the South more than any other factor.

This member says that the Klan, meeting in a small rural community about five miles from Lawrenceville, has decided to hold a demonstration and burn a cross tonight in an effort to keep Negroes from voting in the County Primary tomorrow. Tues. 3-23-48

He asks us to urge the Klan not to do so. We assume him to be honest and sincere. The Constitution

We do so urge, as we have in the past.

We hope that the good people of Gwinnett County, where all factions have joined together in a fine effort to promote the best interests of their County, will do what they can. We hope the war veterans, whatever their feeling about the present revolt in the South, will throw their influence against any such harmful action by the Klan, which will again encourage the enemies of the South to further efforts; which will give the Moscow radio more to say about the lawlessness in Georgia and the South; which will enable the radical organizations of the North to say, "We told you so." Atlanta, Ga.

Another Election-Eve Klan Meet Predicted

The Columbus Record

Columbus, Ga.

By ED BRIDGES

ATLANTA, Ga., March 23—(UP)—Another election-eve demonstration by the Ku Klux Klan, this time in Lawrenceville, Ga., was predicted today as Georgia towns continued to take steps to curb Klan activity.

Secretary Walter White of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored people, said the demonstration would come while Southern senators are speaking by radio against President Truman's civil rights proposals.

The Atlanta Constitution said in an editorial that a "patriotic Georgian" who is a member of the Gwinnett (Lawrenceville) klan telephoned that the klan will demonstate at Lawrenceville tonight "in an effort to keep Negroes from voting in the county primary election tomorrow." Tues - 3-23-48

Activity To Be Probed

Gov. M. E. Thompson has recently noted the increasing klan activity over the state and has instructed the Georgia Bureau of Investigation to look into all reported Klan functions.

Last night the Jackson, Ga., council passed an ordinance outlawing parades and demonstrations without consent of the mayor and council. The action came four days ahead of the Butts county Democratic primary.

Mayor W. M. Redman said council had been informed the klan planned a cross burning in Jackson, probably around the courthouse, on election eve. The mayor ordered extra police sworn in to enforce the ordinance this week.

Seven other Georgia towns have warned the klan this month they would quell any demonstrations be neath hoods or intended to intimi-

against it.

Saturday night.

The Negroes balloted without incident as about 200 whites of 485 registered also voted.

The eight-foot cross that blazed on the courthouse grounds in Jefersonville had been interpreted as a KKK warning to Negroes to stay away from the polls.

White, in predicting the Gwinnett demonstration, also cited recent Klan parades in Wrightsville and Swainsboro, Ga.

In the most recent case, at Wrightsville, not a single Negro voted in Johnston county primary

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elections the day after a cross was burned as a supposed KKK warning.

Grand Dragon Green

'Dragon' Is Mum On Role That Klan May Get In Rift

ATLANTA, March 4.—(AP)—The grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan Thursday declined to say say whether the Klan would ride again—as it did after the War Between the States—to stop President Truman's civil rights program.

Asked in an interview if such were the Klan's intentions after he had attacked the civil rights program on the eve of the Johnson County Democratic primary, Klan Chieftain Samuel Green said, "I can't answer that."

Dr. Green also was asked why the Klan remained hooded in public as it did during the parade at Wrightsville, Ga., Wednesday night.

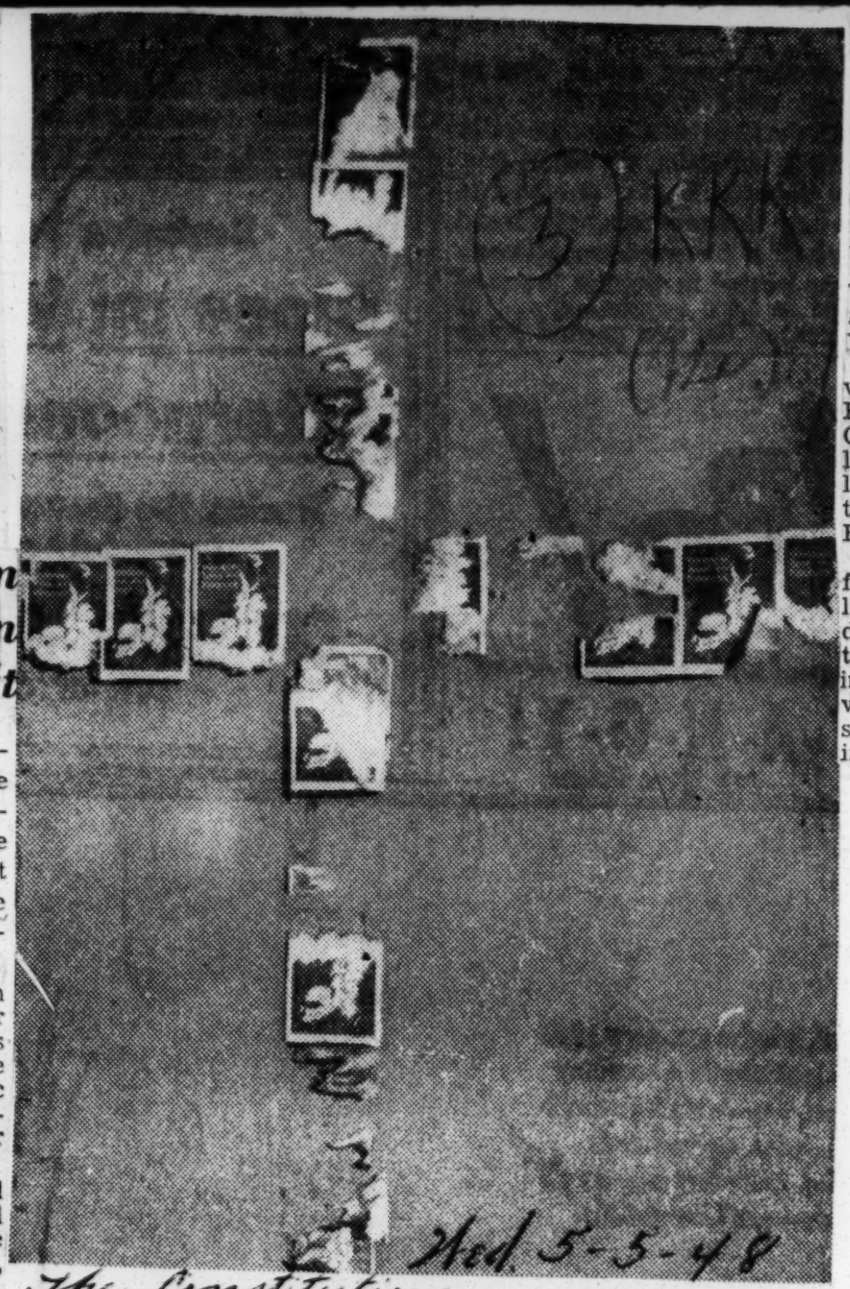
"Prejudice," he replied, "prejudice by certain minorities—Jews, Catholics and other foreigners.

"For example," he continued, "if a Jew found out an employe of his was a klansman, that man would be fired." Green said such was the case involving a Catholic employer and two employes in Chattanooga.

The grand dragon was asked if the Klan's parade and speechmaking in Wrightsville, Ga., on the night before the primary was coincidence or planned.

He said it was coincidence; that the meeting was held the night before so it wouldn't interfere with duties of Klansmen who were serving at the polls as clerks and counters.

Originally, said Dr. Green, the meeting had been scheduled for March 3, the day of the primary.



Constitution Staff Photo—Ryan Sander

KLAN CROSS IN DOWNTOWN ATLANTA—This cross of red Ku Klux Klan stickers appeared Tuesday pasted on a sealed doorway on Plaza Way. It was one of many Klan sticker "pastings" in the block, a stone's throw from the office of Dr. Samuel Green, Klan Imperial Wizard, who said: "Someone must have been on the job." He refused further comment on "secrets."

Albany 'Klan Ban

ALBANY, April 14—(AP)—City Commission has voted a "Klan Ban" law which prohibits masked or hooded orders parading here. Mayor Pro Tem Richard Hobbs said that "It's more a precautionary measure than anything else, as we haven't heard of any Klan activity here."

The Klan Wins

Three Georgia newsmen, framed by the Ku Klux Klan last month, were let down cold by their newspaper last week.

Photographer Joe Talbot and Reporters James Bellows and Carlton Johnson charged that they had been seized while covering a Klan meeting and forced to drink a pint of liquor apiece (TIME, March 22). Arrested for drunkenness, they had posted bonds, vowed to fight the case to the bitter end.

Last week, without consulting the newsmen, attorneys for the Columbus *Ledger-Enquirer* gave up the fight; they forfeited the bonds in court. The *Ledger-Enquirer* management piously promised "not [to] abate its pursuit of full justice." But it apparently took the word of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation that it would be "impossible" to win the case "since [the Klan] would be able to furnish approximately 175 witnesses against the newspaper reporters." At week's end, City Editor Joe Hall quit in disgust.

Flogger Given 3-Year Term

Atlanta, May 11 (AP)—R. B. Ellison, named as one of the ringleaders in the recent "Black Raider" floggings, today pleaded guilty to participating in two terrorist whippings and was given a sentence of three years—the limit under the law.

Ellison, charged with assault with intent to murder Roy C. Berry on April 15 and Roy Gravitt on March 31, was allowed to plead guilty to the lesser charge of assault and battery. He was sentenced by Judge Bond Almand.

In both instances, Ellison defended the actions of the Klan-linked floggers as "attempts to do good." He made no apology to the judge, but asked leniency in both instances "to show the women and children in this state that someone is interested in their welfare."

'KKK' Threat Received by Macon Couple

MACON, July 19—(AP)—A Macon businessman and his wife today received a threatening letter by mail which was signed "K.K.K." in red, typewritten letters.

The letter, addressed to Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Grant, 140 Hartley St., immediately was turned over to the Bibb County Sheriff.

Text of the letter (with exact spelling) was as follows:

"In this we feel assure that you are makings mistakes in some things that are going on. We believe in law, we believe in virtue, we believe in descensy, we believe in a Supreme Being, we believe in a home kept descent.

"This is to remind you and your wife unless these mistakes are corrected at once there will be action take which is not our desire that such should be. For this will be watched closely and will be corrected if necessary, with both of you.

"There will be some one who will closely watch this at all places and times.

"This is hoping no action will have to be taken, but where the law can't do, or won't do, is where this Organization takes over.

"We wont to be your friends. K. K. K."

Grant, who operates a pulpwood business, used car concern and promotes boxing and wrestling matches in Warner Robins and Americus, said he has an idea who wrote the note.

Georgia Ku Klux Klan Begins Splitting At Seams

ATLANTA (NNPA).—A split in the invisible empire of the Ku Klux Klan occurred last Tuesday when two large Klaverns pulled out to form the "Original Southern Klans, Inc."

The new organization was granted a charter in Muscogee County, the seat of which is Columbus, where colored soldiers are stationed at Fort Benning. Alton E. Pate, a 23-year old war veteran is the "Grand Wizard."

Dr. Samuel Green, head of the Association of Georgia Klans, said the new organization was formed from the Manchester and Columbus Klans. Both have been extremely active chapters.

a "Klanvocation" to be held on Stone Mountain near Atlanta at the same time that the Wallace party is holding its national meeting in Philadelphia.

Local police officials said that they would investigate the cross burning.

KKK Burns Cross To Warn Wallace Senate Candidate

MACON, Ga. — The Ku Klux Klan resumed its policy of burning a fiery cross for purposes of terror last week as Larking Marshall, editor of a Negro newspaper in Macon, was threatened because he is running for the U.S. Senate on the Henry Wallace ticket.

According to a reliable report, the burning of the cross in the yard of Marshall's home was only the beginning of a campaign to intimidate Negroes and others who will campaign under the Wallace banner.

Another report declares that the Georgia Klan has issued a call for

HOODED WOMEN PARADE WITH GEORGIA KU KLUX COWARDS

Grand Dragon Says Group Is Ten Times Larger Than 1947 Membership of 50,000

ED. NOTE: WHERE'S THE FBI?

GORDON, Ga. — (ANP) — Ever head of a woman Ku Klux Klaner? There were from five to nine hooded and robed women in a Ku Klux Klan parade staged here recently.

The hooded Kluxers, numbering about 100, marched through the city streets for about a hour and then burned a large cross near the high school gymnasium on the outskirts of the city. The women in the parade were identified by their shoes and stockings.

KLAN INTIMIDATES GEORGIANS

WRIGHTSVILLE, Ga. — (ANP) — No Negroes voted in the Johnson county primary last week following the appearance of the Ku Klux Klan in this county seat and an appeal to bloodshed by the KKK Grand dragon.

Some 300 hooded and robed klansmen paraded through the town on the eve of the election. A 15-foot cross was burned on the lawn of the county courthouse.

Inside a circle of fully hooded and robed klansmen, green-clad Dr. Samuel Green, of Atlanta, grand dragon of the hate order, made no direct reference to the election slated for the next day, but openly attacked President Truman's announced program for civil rights and threatened that blood would flow in the streets of the south if the Negro takes a place at the side of white men through force of federal bayonets.

The grand dragon declared to the throng:

"We reaffirm our loyalty to the constitution, our vow to uphold the laws, but there are some things beyond the law.

"The klan will not permit the people of this country to become a mongrel race.

"There are people in this country who would deny you your very lives in order to get the Negro vote.

"I call on you to write to your representatives to protect your rights.

"President Truman is facing certain defeat unless he retracts some of his statements. If he wants to take the Negro as his equal that's his business."

Further, Dr. Green declared that this country was founded by white men and that "those who don't want it to be a white man's country should move to another country." In conclusion he told the hooded kluxers: "We want to see the Negro treated fairly, but whenever the Negro takes a place at the side of white men through force of federal bayonets, blood will flow in streets of the south."

Another klan demonstration had been held a week previously some 20 miles away, at Gordan, in Wilkinson country.

The country judge on the next day after the election claimed that Negroes were "not interested in county affairs."

Only one Negro is known to have approached the polls in Johnson county. He was said to have asked if his name was on the registration books and to have left.

Both Gov. M. E. Thompson and State Atty. Gen. Eugene Cook hit the klan action, but claimed there was nothing they could do about the activities of the "voluntary" association whose charter was outlawed last year.

Klan Begins Terror Campaign To Frighten Off Third Party Supporters

Macon, Ga.—On Wednesday night, June 30, a fiery cross was planted in front of the home of Parkin Marshall, newspaper editor of this city and the senatorial candidate of the Peoples Progressive Party of Georgia. He is the first Negro to run for the United States Senate in Georgia since the Reconstruction era, following the Civil War.

The cross was planted a few feet from Marshall's door while he was asleep. It was bolted together and wrapped in a burlap, soaked in oil. He was awakened by someone tapping on his bedroom window and rushed in time to see a truck driving off.

Earlier in the day, acording to C. B. Baldwin, campaign manager for Henry Wallace, Marshall had paid off the mortgage on his house. On Monday he had been told he would be foreclosed unless he quit the Wallace movement and withdrew his senatorial candidacy.

This was the second cross planted in front of a Negro home by the Klan in Macon. Two weeks before, Baldwin said, the Klan had burned a cross in front of the home of a Negro dentist, Dr. D. T. Walton, a Wallace supporter who was living in a mixed neighborhood.

Mr. Baldwin also disclosed that he had learned that the Klan had timed its nocturnal "Invokation" for July 23 to coincide with the opening day of the national founding convention of the New Party in Philadelphia.

Another Blot On Georgia

Georgia received another staggering blow to her prestige and position as a commonwealth in the family of states last Wednesday, when Negro educators, 36 of them in all, including three college presidents, were chased out of Milledgeville, where they were ordered for a meeting by the Chancellor of the University System of Georgia.

The facts show that the meeting was one of routine, customary with the three Negro and 11 white units, since the organization of the University System 14 or 15 years ago; that the Negro educators were present at the request of the Chancellor, and that with all the care and caution taken by Chancellor Paty and host President Dr. Guy Wells, the Negro delegates were harassed and forced to leave before the conference ended, because of the persistence of wild rumors that they and the whites were eating and sleeping together.

That is something new in Georgia. It is part of the lawlessness which many people feared would come as a result of racial incitement and false preachment of hatred and suspicion. Here we have a clear demonstration of the power of Ku Kluxism and rowdism holding sway over the lawfully constituted officials of the state. Here we see an already weak University System on the brink of disintegration because those who have the intelligence and leadership to give direction are pushed aside and rendered impotent by the irresponsible, rabble-rousing demagog.

We speak sincerely when we say that that one unfortunate incident will do more to force the issue of civil rights than a hundred friendly gestures by liberal whites. And it will force a test of the South's segregation laws just as surely as discrimination forced a test of the white primary laws.

Finally, we may be pardoned if we should differ with the course pursued by the presidents when they consented to leave the meeting, despite the fact that they were asked to "stay because the meeting was too important to be broken up by wild rumors." The presidents should have remained at the meeting, even at the danger of personal risks. This is no time for compromise on the important matter of equality of opportunity and privilege, either in the field of education or economics. It would have provided the foundation for a suit, which is inevitable under the strict jim-crow pattern in Southern states. We do not have equality. And we will not have it until and unless Negroes of influence stand up in their particular corners, like Isaiah stood up in his, even at the peril of self sacrifice, and contend for that equality.

White Newsmen Manhandled By Klan; Later Jailed And Fined

Forced To Drink Whiskey Until Drunk

COLUMBUS, Ga.—(SNS)—The Georgia Ku Klux Klan extended its spreading shadows Friday to include white newsmen who sought to spotlight their meeting. The manhandled, forced to drink whis- identified the the two newsmen as Jim Klan action was reported Satur- key and given some sort of injec- Bellows and and Carlton Johnson, to- Bellows and day by the president of the Colum- tion at a meeting near Manches- gether with bus, (Ga.) Ledger-Enquirer, A. H ter, Ga. Chapman, who said that two of its ledger president Chapman reporters and a photographer were The three men had gone to the Klan meeting in a little school house and were recognized by the Klansmen. The Klansmen handed each newspaperman a pint of whiskey and told them if they didn't

pher, Managi- len said:

drink it, they would pour it down their throats.

FORCED TO DRINK

Each of the men were reported to have taken the liquor. Later they were taken into the hall, and one after one of them had passed out. The three of were then placed into their automobile and left on the side of the road. Five minutes after Klansmen left them, a Manchester policeman arrested them on a charge of being drunk. The Manchester Police Chief said the three were found in an automobile. They were released on bond of $8.75 each.

The following telegram was sent Saturday to Attorney General Tom Clark by A. H. Chapman, president of the Ledger-Enquirer Puolishing Co.:

"Hon. Thomas Clark, attorney general, Washington:

Columbus, Ga., March 13, 1948.

"An outrage of major proportions was committed last night upon two newspaper reporters and one newspaper photographer in clear violation of the civil rights of a citizen in that these three men were violently handled and illegally and against their will given injections by a gathering of members of the Ku Klux Klan headed in person by Dr. Samuel R. Green, its chief head and officer in the state, the incident having taken place last night about 40 miles from Columbus at Shiloh, Ga., when our reporters and photographer approached the scene of a gathering of Klansmen at the destination of a caravan which had proceeded earlier from this city.

"We earnestly asked that your office take cognizance of this outrage and direct an investigation with a view to determining if it has been a violation of federal statutes either as to the administration of narcotics or violation of civil rights and that vigorous prosecution follow if justified.

"Three leaders in the outrage, including Dr. Green, have been definitely identified and we have sources of information that will lead to other identities. We bespeak your earnest and honest consideration of this happening and will appreciate an early response."

(Signed) A. H. Chapman,
President Ledger-Enquirer Co."

Violence Is Ominous for All

We regret to see that Augusta has some persons, as all cities have, who are dominated by their emotions . . . not their minds. They have played into the hands of the Wallace campaign workers by shoving them around. Birmingham did this with Sen. Taylor when he appeared there for Wallace, giving him national publicity by arresting him.

What the workers of violence never realize is that they don't solve anything. They make it possible for the critics of the South to say that Federal laws are needed to control us. They give ammunition to those who advance the civil liberties proposals.

The Ku Klux Klan does this, in the worst fashion of all. The Klan, as we have said, is a civic cancer. It is more. By wearing masks, by moving in the dark, by committing violence, by "telling" sheriffs what to do, it drives away any industrialists who might be thinking of putting a plant in one of our towns or cities. It is a very expensive, as well as a disgraceful luxury for any community or State to have.

We have laws. The sheriff who joins the Klan or allows it to dictate to him admits he himself is not able to do his job. Both he and his community will suffer, spiritually and financially.

Also—let all thoughtful persons consider violence.

Men who can be led to whip or shoot a poor Negro, because he is a Negro, can very easily be led to loot and kill somewhere else. It is just a step from violence in Catfish Row to looting and violence on "The Hill" in Augusta, in Shirley Hills in Macon, in Ardsley Park in Savannah, on Pace's Ferry Road in Atlanta . . .

It is a dangerous thing to condone violence. Because once violence is admitted as a part of government it mushrooms. And violence cannot be controlled as a function of society. Some persons shrug off violence, which takes over a function of the law, because it is remote and perhaps deals with a sordid problem. But violence, if not controlled, is soon out of control.

Let every community think about it.

Let those members of the Klan who are well-meaning citizens resign from it and devote their attention to law and order and support of their established government.

Let us all be quick to speak out against violence.

And let our more emotional ones realize that by their violence they weaken the South's position and give strength to its enemies.

MACON TELEGRAPH

KKK Intimidation To Rule State?

Georgia can credit the Ku Klux Klan with another shameful deed now chalked up against the name of our good State.

The presidents of three Negro colleges and their assistants were intimidated and threatened to such an extent while attending a conference of Georgia University System officials in Milledgeville recently that they "thought it advisable to withdraw from the meeting."

In so many words, they were run out of town.

They were even harassed by cars following them to the Milledgeville city limits.

Dr. Guy Wells, President of GSCW where the meeting was being held, told The Telegraph and afterward, "It is generally known the KKK was behind the demonstration." He said that KKK stickers had been posted on doors to assembly halls and to business offices on the college campus.

Every Georgian should be incensed over this offense against personal liberties and freedom to act under the law, a right belonging to all citizens of our State regardless of race or color.

Prior to the Milledgeville conference—which, incidentally, was the fifteenth annual meeting of that nature—Dr. Wells took precautions to insure that all arrangements conformed to "the Southern pattern" of race relations. The Negro educators were housed in Negro homes and ate in Negro restaurants. They sat separate from white educators during conference sessions.

The KKK has frequently made its attacks against various citizens for political reasons, but this is the first time our educational system has been so threatened by this masked organization whose members conceal their identity and refuse to deal in the open with their fellowman.

Sometime ago Grand Dragon Samuel Green said the KKK will hold a rally in Macon sometime during October.

They will not be welcomed and no representative citizen has invited them here.

Relations between the white and Negro races in Bibb County has been unusually good as compared with other sections of Georgia. We have had no purging of Negroes from our voting lists. The presence of the Klan here can serve no good purpose. On the contrary, it will most likely destroy the harmony which now exists just as it has stimulated racial strife and discontent elsewhere.

We have heard it said that Georgia is in for two years' rule by the KKK. Speaking from the courthouse steps in Milledgeville before election, Dragon Green announced that the Klan would support Herman Talmadge in the primary because Talmadge was "the only candidate in the race who would uphold the Klan principles of white supremacy."

Herman never renounced the Klan indorsement and since his election KKK activity has further stirred up racial feeling.

It is time we got rid of the Klan entirely or we will find ourselves being ruled by intimidation.

Defense of Klan

Editor Constitution: I have just finished reading your article in your paper entitled ("At Midnight There was a Call") and what you have to say about the KKK and also give them credit for everything that happens does not make sense to me.

I am not a KKK and never was and never will be, I suppose. Now you know as well as I do that there is a force or an army in our country that will not stop at anything short of real force.

Did it ever occur to you that the KKK may not have had anything to do with that thing at Milledgeville you speak of? The swine that are causing lots of confusion and who want to stir up trouble do these things hoping the KKK will get credit for it and generally does.

Another thing I have noticed that if a Negro kills a white man in Georgia the news is about nil but if a white man kills a Negro, whether in defense or not or at least before the evidence in the matter is known the front page of the Atlanta papers are plastered in box car letters about it, how come is what I want to know. You get off some mig[illegible] good stuff once in a while but very bad at others. Why don't you be consistent and print the facts or don't write at all? You don't any more know that the KKK is guilty of what happened in Milledgeville than I do.

J. L. HAWKES.
Athens.

Klan Stages Parade

Denied use of Larry Bell Park, Governors of the Ku-Klux Klan last night voted 5 to 0 against the Klan use staged a motorized parade through Marietta and Tell town. A sparse crowd of spectators saw approximately 50 cars drive through the business section. The Board of

3 1948

KKK (Georgia)

The Constitution Atlanta, Ga.

Associated Press Wirepho

"KLANHANDLED" NEWSMEN EXAMINE WOUNDS —Three newsmen of the Columbus Ledger pause to check one another's bruises upon leaving a physician's office in Columbus. The men, Joe Talbot, Jim Bellows and Carlton Johnson, left to right, said they were "manhandled" by Klansmen attending a meeting atop Pine Mountain, near Manchester, which they had been assigned to cover.

Dan Duke Seeks Ways To Prosecute Klan

Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

Daniel Duke, Atlanta lawyer and one-time Klan prosecutor, announced Monday that he has been employed by a group of white and Negro citizens of Wrightsville to see if Negroes in that county have legal basis for damage suits against the Klan and Dr. Green. Tues.

"I am studying the facts and the law," declared Mr. Duke. "If it is determined that federal statutes have been violated there will be a suit filed for injunctive relief and damages." 3-16-48

The Atlanta lawyer told newsmen that he has the names of 40 klan members in the Wrightsville Klavern. He says he has information also as to which ones took part in the pre-election demonstration.

Mr. Duke said he thinks he can win a civil action suit brought under the federal law which forbids two or more persons going in disguise on a public highway or on private property for the purpose of depriving any citizen of his civil rights as guaranteed by the U. S. Constitution. Daily World

Meanwhile, Governor M. E. Thompson tossed the full weight of the law enforcement machinery of the state against the klan following its manhandling of two newsmen and a photographer on the staff of the Columbus (Ga.) Ledger-Enquirer last Friday night at Manchester, Georgia. The Governor, in a message to Capt. W. C. McLeMore GBI chief said: Atlanta, Ga.

"I want you to personally investigate this matter thoroughly and swear out warrants against any individual or groups, when, after your investigation, there is evidence they violated any state law." Tues.

Investigation against the Klan was called for Saturday by Maynard Ashmore, Publisher of The Ledger-Enquirer, who wired U. S. Attorney Tom Clark after two of his reporters and a photographer. The men Jim Bellows and Carlton Jim Bellows, Carlton Johnson, Joe Talbot, all of whom were reported to have been forced to drink liquor until drunk and then drugged. Columbus Ledger-Enquirer employe, circulation manager of the paper, resigned his post following testimony of reporters that he was identified in the Klan crowd. 3-16-48

Negroes Report Receiving Klan Notes In Mail Boxes

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

Sat. 3-20-48

MT. VERNON, Ga. — (SNS) — Threats and intimidation by the Ku Klux Klan continued Wednesday to follow the trail of county elections in the state, according to reports coming out of Montgomery county. Officials there confirmed the reports by several Negroes scattered in wide areas over the county that they received notes warning them to stay away from the polls on election day Wednesday.

Several managers of election precincts and a number of Negro leaders confirmed reports of the mail box notes. The notes, all said to be typewritten on slips of paper, read:

"All colored people are advised to stay at home on the 17th day of March and work. Yours truly, KKK."

Of the 600 Negroes registered in the county, about 20 per cent voted it was reported. The Mount Vernon precinct voted approximately 60 Negroes in special booths, all said to be done in orderly and peaceful manner. Daily World

Similar threats, accompanied by violent speech-making and a Klan parade in Johnson county at Wrightsville, Ga., on the eve of a Democratic primary, with the results that none of the 800 Negroes of Johnson county reported to the polls for voting. Atlanta, Ga.

The bulk of the Negro votes in Montgomery county were polled at Mount Vernon, Alley, Tarrytown Alston and Higgston. Sat.

Negroes of the county do not appear unduly alarmed. 3-21-48

KU KLUX KLAN LEAFLETS DROPPED OVER COLUMBUS BY PLANE

The Constitution Atlanta, Ga.

COLUMBUS, March 25—(INS)—Ku Klux Klan leaflets were dropped by plane over the northern section of Columbus Thursday.

The leaflets that fluttered down into the mill section bore the statement: 3-26-48

"Wake up, America—15 years ago the Ku Klux Klan distributed millions of leaflets like this: 'Communism will not be tolerated'—Ku Klux Klan rides again." Tues.

The leaflets bore a sketch of a hooded klansman riding a horse and carrying a torch.

The Klan Brings Sorrow and Sham

Atlanta, Ga.

[illegible] have said that any comm[illegible]-latter's wife was at home is re[illegible] for getting him out.

nity which gets an active klavern of Ku Klux Klan gets something which bring only sorrow; which will blight good name of the community; which will in time, bring disgrace and a sense of shame.

If there is another reason, the Board has not given it. So the as[illegible] must be that the principal and th[illegible] are right.

Mon. 2-23-48

We think that Lakeview's happy experience has just begun. County will suffer along with it. is no need for such an un-American organization which corrupts where it touches.

We are sure the board is em[illegible] and humiliated. Must it now ask to be the real teachers and ac[illegible] principal?

There was no racial controversy. There was nothing touching one of the Southern traditions. The coach was a personal matter, following

In Russia the Communists use this the so-called point out that in America, with its claims coach said it of liberty, a hooded, secret, subversive ring the ejec- order can spread terror and fear.

tion of a young man from the gymnasium. Let every community ask of itself if

A young coach and teacher reports he has been fired because he was in opposition to the Ku Klux Klan. and Lakeview it needs this ridiculous organization. Let

The school principal resigned in protest, supporting by his resignation the er, a splendid every community ask of itself if its of[illegible] charge of the coach that a secret, coward- e nation has ficers and courts are not able to deal with ly organization which burned a cross in heard about the Klan and the sch[illegible] school. The every problem.

The Klan is a disease which is to any decent community what foul, festering inner sores are to the body of a sick man.

A Klan klavern is an expensive disease.

Let every community consider that indisputable fact.

Meanwhile, all honor to Principal John Burks who had the manhood to resign rather than truckle to the Klan.

RALPH McGILL

The Honor Roll of Cities

Five Georgia cities have outlawed Ku Klux Klan demonstrations and parades.

Others will follow.

Never before has the Klan been so nakedly revealed for what it is—an un-American, profit-making outfit which preys on the fears and worries of many good persons to the benefit of a few.

On the record of what the nation knows about the Ku Klux Klan, it is associated with perjury, corruption, violence and viciousness.

There is nowhere any record of integrity in the history of the Klan.

Its best-known officials in the twenties went to jail for murder, criminal assault and theft.

Before Hitler went to war, it was seeking to join with the German Nazi Bund in New York. It was one, in methods, viciousness and dishonor, with the Nazis. It was blood brother to Hitler and his methods.

It still is.

Like a dead fish in a lake, it rises as it rots.

Sorrow Its presence can mean nothing to a community save sorrow and dishonor.

It is no more akin to the Klan of the reconstruction days, headed by Nathan Bedford Forrest, than the rose is akin to the skunkcabbage.

That Klan was disbanded by Nathan Bedford Forrest because of the rascals, murderers and cowards who infested it.

The nation needs another Forrest today. Not another Klan.

Our Worst It is a curious thing that the South, which has as many fine persons as any other section, will allow this organization to blacken the name of the region.

At a time when the South seeks to say that it has laws and can enforce them, the Ku Klux Klan mocks the law and makes almost necessary some sort of Federal laws.

The Klu Klux Klan has wrapped its arms about the radical Negro organizations and Communists and said: "Brother, let us both join to impose Federal restrictions on the South."

This the Klan cannot deny.

Every honest judge is smeared by the Ku Klux Klan.

Shame Every Southern State, and certainly every sheriff and judge in Georgia is placed in an embarrassing position by the Ku Klux Klan.

We all—every single Southern resident—are made to look cowardly and lawless by the actions of this civic disease called the Klan.

Every evil blow directed at the South is given validity by the lawless violence of the Klan.

Even the devils in hell must laugh out loud as these hypocrites burn the Cross of Christ as their symbol. Indeed it is an excellent symbol of Christianity itself being burned at the stake or crucified in flames.

Disease Let every community take heed. This thing called the Klan is a disease. It will ruin your jury system. It will corrupt your school system. It will bring sorrow and disgrace on any community which gives it encouragement.

It is inconceivable that any person who loves his State and the South can join an organization which by its actions brings hate and disgrace on the South.

There is no need for it.

Does a sheriff confess he cannot keep order?

Does a county admit it needs more than its own law?

Indeed, is the burning cross a symbol—of Christianity in torture; of God being mocked; of decency and honor in flames; of violence and dishonor enthroned.

The Klan--A Traitor to the South

The Constitution repeatedly has pointed out that the Ku Klux Klan is a liability which no community in Georgia or any other Southern State can afford.

For the Klan is, in fact, a traitor to the South.

Though it sets itself up as the upholder of the finest of Southern traditions, the Klan of today, which has usurped a proud and honored name out of the past, is playing directly into the hands of acknowledged enemies of the South and the Southern way of life.

During the past few days there have been Klan demonstrations at points in Georgia where elections were to be held. Though Klan leaders deny it, these demonstrations obviously were for the purpose of intimidating Negro voters who planned to appear at the polls. It is significant that at Wrightsville not a single Negro voted on election day which was preceded by a Klan demonstration.

News of incidents of this sort immediately is relayed to every city and town in the nation. It is pounced upon by the South's enemies, made more inflammatory in the presentation to the populace of other regions and used as proof that force legislation, such as the antilynch bill, FEPC and others of that ilk, is necessary to protect the rights of minorities in the South.

Southerners, almost without exception, find such measures repugnant. We can, we believe, solve our problems in our own way and without interference. But every Ku Klux Klan demonstration, every act of intimidation gives our opponents in the North and East—and in Congress—a strong arguing point for legislation we abhor.

That is why The Constitution finds itself in full agreement with Acting Gov. Thompson's appeal, issued Friday afternoon, for "every thoughtful and patriotic Georgian and Southerner to resist the Klan's meetings of intimidation, by making it plain they are not wanted . . . I hope that all persons who may have been misguided into participating in these demonstrations which are so harmful to the real interests of the South, will remove themselves from further participation, so that the South may present its best face to the nation and demonstrate that we do not need the proposed laws, duplicating our own."

The Acting Governor stated the case well when he declared the Klan actually is "giving aid to the Communists, the race baiters and the radical organizations" and by its actions is cutting the ground from beneath the feet of our Senators and Representatives in Congress who "tell the world that we have enough laws and that we will enforce them without Federal coercion."

We hope every Georgian and every Southerner will take these words to heart and refuse to encourage an organization that has proved itself a traitor to our cause.

Georgia Town Bars Klan From Holding Meeting In Park

MARIETTA, Ga. — City officials here last week denied the use of the city park to the Ku Klux Klan as a meeting place for the installation of new members, declaring such a meeting would constitute a threat to public order. This is the first time that the local government has had courage to deny any request made by the Klan.

On the meeting night a sparse crowd saw a motorcade of some 50 cars drive through the business section bef re heading for a nearby farm where the meeting was held. The board of governors of the park had voted unanimously to refuse the request to use the park by the Klan.

No More Pre-Vote Parades In State, Klan Pledges

There will be no more crosses burned or Klan demonstrations on nights before elections, according to Dr. Samuel Green, Grand Dragon of the Ku Klux Klan.

Dr. Green said he had turned down a request Wednesday from the Klan in a Georgia town to stage a parade on election eve on grounds "it might be construed as intimidation."

Attorney Dan Duke recently was retained by a Wrightsville group of citizens to bring civil suit against Green and the Klan for their part in a cross-burning the night before the county's primary. No Negroes voted the next day.

"I set the date for the Wrightsville demonstration myself," Dr. Green said. "Originally I was to grant the Wrightsville Klan a charter in January. It was changed to Feb. 25 but I changed it to the date it was held because it was the first date I had available."

"NOBODY KNOWS" BUT THE KKK

AUGUSTA, (Ga.) — (ANP) — Firemen were called to a vacant lot in the Negro section here recently to extinguish the third fiery cross to appear in or near Augusta within a month. No one seemed to "know how" the cross came to be placed there. Two other crosses had appeared in North, Augusta, and Allen

Pearson Reports Split In Klan Rank Over Talmadge

A recent report from Drew Pearson, noted columnist, claims that a split exists among the Georgia Klansmen on the order's proposed campaign to elect Herman Talmadge as the state's next governor.

Pointing out that Grand Dragon Green is not at all happy about it, Mr. Pearson says the split is the most significant development in Klan history.

Giving the inside story of the alleged disagreement, Columnist Pearson said the division occurred after Dr. Richard Eubank, acting cyclops in the absence of Dr. Green, delivered a speech calling for an all out support of the Klansmen in boosting Talmadge to the governorship.

The address was delivered at the first January meeting of Klavern No. 1, Mr. Pearson avers.

KLANSMAN'S DUTY

When Eubank declared it was the duty of every Klansman to get behind Talmadge and make certain he is elected, a vigorous protest was registered, Mr. Pearson stated.

Leading the protest was Klansman Wingate, an employe of the U-Drive-It company, Pearson said, who was quoted as saying: "I'll be damned if I'll support Talmadge."

Pearson wrote that Wingate reminded his fellow Klansmen of the actions of Herman's father, Eugene, who broke up labor unions and set up labor concentration camps and proclaimed that $1 per day was good enough pay for any man in overalls.

Wingate then leveled his remarks at the Exalted Cyclops. Pearson asserted, and reminded him that he had said himself "that Herman will do everything his old man did."

Wingate ended his retort by saying he was not going to vote for Talmadge, Pearson continued.

OPPOSITION SUPPORTED

Wingate's dissention gained the support of others in the meeting and the split went over until the next meeting, when Grand Titan Ransom tried to straighten things out, Mr. Pearson related.

Ransom told the Klansmen they should think about their wives and children and the color problem, Columnist Pearson revealed. This, too, failed to halt the opposition, he added in saying that one Klansman shouted from the floor:

"What do you think Brother Wingate was thinking about but his wife and children when he opposed Talmadge?"

Grand Dragon Green is said to have held a meeting last week to bring some harmony among his hooded boys.

Farmer And Bus Driver Beaten In Terror Reign

The arrest of five men here in Atlanta focused the glare of public opinion on the activities of the Black Raiders, rival hate organization of the Ku Klux Klan and the Columbians, as police continued investigation of the flogging of Joe C. Berry in Fulton County Thursday night.

The brutal lashing of the youth ushered into the spotlight a reign of terror over the state of Georgia as night-riders and terrorists in scattered counties had revived the "lash rule" in intimidating Negroes and whites with the resurgence of the KKK over the state.

The probe into the activities of the hooded order came on the heels of Governor Melvin E. Thompson's charge that a series of floggings had been planned by the KKK over the state.

The charge brought a prompt response from Fulton Solicitor General Paul Webb, who said he would welcome help from anyone in connection with the investigation. He said that he could promise protection for anyone in connection with the investigation.

Governor Thompson was quoted as stating that floggings have been planned in Atlanta, LaGrange and possibly other places in Georgia."

In Troup County law enforcement officials were probing a charge that a Negro man named Limon and a woman Mary Gates were flogged a month ago. A Troup Deputy Sheriff said the men who flogged Gates, a farmer and school bus driver, accused him of being too active in church. They accused Mary Gates of cursing a white woman. The floggings took place at different times, according to the deputy.

A strategy to concentrate on the downfall of the Black Raiders came when Gov. Thompson commended Chief G. Neal Ellis and the Fulton County police for apprehending the "raiders" and bringing about immediate prosecution.

The Governor asked "the police department of other cities and counties to be on the alert inorder to avoid additional planned floggings," the chief executive said "I promise the cooperation of the Ga. Bureau of Investigation with any enforcement group in such investigation as may become necessary."

Alleged 'Black Raider' Kills Self With Shotgun In Georgia

ATLANTA.—(AP)—Sherman C. Keheley, 58, gray-haired utility lineman accused as a "black raider" flogger of a young war veteran, shot himself to death Wednesday night at his home, Police Sgt. L. T. Bullard reported.

Bullard said Keheley, an admitted Ku Klux Klan member, was found sprawled bare-foot on the floor, a jagged wound in his side and a .12 gauge shotgun nearby.

He left a note, the officer added, saying he had "always tried to do the best I can by everybody, and this is the only way I know out."

Keheley was under $5,000 bond after indicment for assault with intent to murder as one of five "black raiders" who took ex-GI Joe Berry from his home and beat him. He also was accused of helping to beat two Troup County Negroes and threatening Luther J. Martin of College Park, Ga.

Keheley was caught by bloodhounds after the flogging of Berry last Thursday night in a patch of woods.

Fulton County Police Captain Fred Bradford quoted him as saying he and the others beat Berry because they understood he had been drinking excessively and not supporting his wife properly.

Bradford said Lawrence D. Fortner, also charged with the Berry lashing, told him Keheley was one of four men who threatened to beat Martin for "drinking too much."

Cards bearing the words "black raiders" were found at the spot where 23-year-old Berry was lashed. Also picked up there was a heavy leather strap fastened to a wooden handle.

Gov. M. E. Thompson charged that the "raiders" were a new adjunct of the Ku Klux Klan and the Berry beating was the first of a systematic series planned in Georgia. He ordered state police officers on the alert.

"R. B. Ellison called me at home about 6 p. m., and asked me if I would meet him at the Betsy Ross Klan at the corner of Memorial Drive and Moreland Avenue, and I told him I would see him there. About 7:30 my wife and I left home and went to the Betsy Ross and met Ellison. My wife went on upstairs and I stood out and talked to Ellison a few minutes and Mrs. Ellison arrived and went on upstairs to the meeting Ellison told me E. W. Mitchell was going to meet him in town.

"Ellison got in his car and went to meet Mitchell and I went to the corner of North and Hemphill Avenues and I met this fellow Comboia. Me and Comboia talked and he told me about his brother-in-law and how sorry he was. I guess I had been there about 10 or 15 minutes when Ellison came up with Mitchell. Then we talked a little bit. We decided to go to 59 Linden Ave. and get Joe Berry. "We went in Mitchell's Ford and Comboia drove my car and we also waited on us at Hemphill and Fourteenth Street. When we got over to Berry's house Ellison went in and Mitchell went in with him and in a little bit they came back with a boy who said his name was Joe Berry. "We went to Ridgewood Road and drove down in the woods. All of us went on a little hill. After we got up there I talked to him about the way he had been doing and they talked to him also. Mitchell and Ellison lashed him two or three times with a strap

Accused Man Talks In Beating of Vet

A silver-haired 58-year-old man, S. C. Keheley, who admitted he was a member of the Ku Klux Klan, Friday confessed participation in the flogging Thursday night of Joe Berry, 23-year-old World War II veteran. Keheley said two other members of the three indicted with him Friday for assault with intent to murder and carrying a concealed weapon were also Klansmen.

Chief G. Neal Ellis, Det. Capt. Fred Bradford and Sol. Gen. Paul Webb "broke" the case less than 24 hours after Berry was flogged in woods off Ridgewood Road.

The police and Webb are investigating the possible existence of a terrorist organization known as the Black Raiders," several crude masks and a leather strap near the scene.

ly. I talked with him before I lashed him. I told him if it was not for his way of doing that we would be at home with our wife and children and it wasn't our desire to be out on a trip like this.

"It was mentioned about his drinking and Berry said he had not been drinking."

Keheley then described the surprise arrival of Fulton County Patrolmen A. D. Trollinger and Q. F. Hays, who stopped when they saw two cars parked and a flickering flashlight in the woods. He said they separated, leaving Berry in the woods. Sat. 4-17-48

"I guess I had traveled about a mile, "continued Keheley, "when the dogs caught me and chewed me up pretty bad, clothes and hide, too. The Constitution

"I am a member of the Ku Klux Klan No. 213 and my wife belongs there, too. Said the name of it was the Betsy Ross Klavern. Ellison's wife belongs there also. Ellison belongs to No. 1 Klavern which is located on Whitehall Street, I believe. Mitchell is also a Klansman, but I do not know where he belongs." Atlanta, Ga.

Berry, a construction worker, said the floggers got him out of bed and asked him to come to their car to make application for a job. He said he went with his child in his arms, and that one of the men took the child back to his wife before he got in the car with them. He said he served four years in the Army and had been in campaigns in Northern France and Germany with the 91st Division. He is employed by a construction company, he said.

Klan Loyalty Challenged By Minister

Constitution

COLUMBUS, June 4—(INS)—A Columbus Baptist minister, who said he believes in white supremacy, Friday challenged the Ku Klux Klan Grand Dragon to a debate on his contention that the anti-Negro group is "unAmerican." Sat 6-5-48

The Rev. Audie S. Ellis, of Columbus, wrote Dr. Samuel Green, Atlanta physician and Klan Grand Dragon that he wanted to debate with him "just before or after your (Klan) ceremonies in Atlanta on July 23."

The minister suggested the subject: "The Ku Klux Klan Is Un-American, Unconstitutional, and Thoroughly UnChristian."

Ellis pointed out that he is "a believer in white supremacy, a preacher and a (Herman) Talmadge follower." (Talmadge is an advocate of white-supremacy and a probable gubernatorial candidate).

The minister informed Dr. Green: Atlanta Ga.

"If you are not afraid we will kill the Klan by turning the spotlight of truth on it, you will accept this challenge."

In Atlanta, Dr. Green promptly said he would not accept the debate challenge. He declared:

"I see no reason whatever to debate with anybody who is so prejudiced that he thinks the Klan is unAmerican. The Klan is made up of native born white gentiles —if there are any real Americans left we are they.

Dr. Green said the minister is "welcomed" to attend the Klan ceremonies scheduled July 23 at Stone Mountain. Green said "everybody in the United States is welcome except representatives of a certain national magazine."

Klan Takes

Atlanta Daily world

Continued From Page One

meetings in 1867 and John C. Lester, one of the original founders listed the "Grand Cyclops" only as a promnent Tennesseean.

Movies in recent years have given important treatment of the Ku Klux Klan in the Reconstruction Period notably D. W. Griffith's "Birth of a Nation," Margaret Mitchell's "Gone With the Wind," and a modern expose of the Klan entitled "The Burning Cross."

The anti-semetic organization has branched out from its original terror crusade against Negroes and poor whites and has been violently anti-Negro, anti-Catholic and anti-Jew. Thurs. 7-1-48

In view of these concepts the new aims of Original Southern Klan seem to have stretched history a bit in saving that aims follow those of the Original Klan for nowhere in the prescript adopted by the Klan in Nashville, back in 1867 does there appear anything to conform with these ideas.

The original Klan's purpose, generally accepted now in the South, was to restore political power to the dsfranchised whites and to curb the so-called scalawags and carpetbaggers. The Klan later was disbanded and did not reappear until after World War I.

Lays Cross Burning to Talmadge Demos

By Abner W. Berry

Larkin Marshall, new party candidate in Georgia for the U. S. Senate, told the Daily Worker yesterday he suspects Talmadge Democrats were behind the burning of a cross last week before his Macon home.

Marshall, who heads the Negro Democratic Club in Macon told the Daily Worker by phone that preparation for the Georgia State Democratic convention was accompanied by anti-Negro propaganda. This race-incitement activity on the part of the State Police. A special appeal to the Governor and State officials had been made by James S. Barfoot, new party candidate for Governor of Georgia and former instructor at the University of Georgia.

The Georgia Democratic Convention was in progress in the City Auditorium as Larkin spoke to the Daily Worker. One of the important matters it considered was how to prevent the Negroes from voting in the Democratiec primaries. In fact, Larkin said, they would like to take the vote away from the Negroes altogether.

As evidence of the success of the new party, Larkin cited three meetings addressed by Paul Robeson on June 19 and 20. On June 20 3,000 persons, mostly Negroes, packed an unsegregated third party rally to hear Robeson in Wheat Street Baptist Church, Atlanta. Earlier the same day Robeson addressed 1,500 in Macon's Stewart Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church. The day before that, 1,000 jammed the Ebenezer Baptist Church, in Athens, to hear Robeson. These meetings, Larkin said, gave white supremacy Democrats the jitters. mon. 7-5-48

"My candidacy against Sen. Richard B. Russell," Larkin said, he thought, had much to do with the cross-burning on the night of June 30. New York

The militant Negro political leader, editor of the weekly Macon World, was told to leave town by a white acquaintance, he said, before the Klan cross was burned. For security reasons he refused to divulge the name of the person issuing the veiled threat. 7-5-48

"I have a good idea who is responsible for the burning cross," Marshall declared, "but I don't want to give any information which might impede the police."

Three days following the incident, he said there had been no "has been meeting with more than usual success with the voters (there are 180,000 registered in Georgia) and the Talmadge people are scared by it. They would like to kill the Negro vote and the third party in addition to keeping Negro voters out of the Democratic primary. I think that was one reason for burning the cross in front of my home —to frighten me and other Negroes who want to have a say-so in the running of State affairs."

Larkin said he was not frightened, that he and his neighbors are guarding his home. "I'm going to stay right here and fight it out," he said.

Columbus Outlaws Wearing Of Masks

COLUMBUS, (INS) — An ordinance was passed by the City Commission Tuesday prohibiting unrestricted wearing of masks. Violation of the new law can bring a maximum fine of $250 or 90 days in jail, or both.

The action taken by the commission is an apparent effort to outlaw masked parades by the Ku Klux Klan. Atlanta, Ga.

The ordinance provides, however, that masks can be worn at fancy dress parties, Halloween parties for 14-years-olds and under and for those who play the role of Santa at Christmas time.

Klans Face Trouble; Charged With Illegal Insurance Program

New York N.Y. Page

Sat. 5-8-48

ATLANTA, GA. - Attorney General Cook on Friday asked State Insurance Commissioner ZacK D. Cravey to probe charges that the Ku Klux Klan is operating an illegal life insurance scheme through the Death Benefit Association of Georgia Klans.

The request for a probe was the result of a letter Jas. H. Sheldon, administrative chairman of the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League, wrote Cook April 3 declaring that a study of Georgia's insurance laws revealel that the association had violated the law in at least six respects by failing to register with the Insurance Department, license its agents and the financial statements, reports, a list of policy holders and its articles of association. 5-8-48 Sat.

Cook replied to Sheldon that he had told Cravey unless the Commissioner makes this investigation "it will be my responsibility to do so."

Dr Sheldon stated that the insurance plan, administered by Grand Dragod Samuel Green, gives subscribers no assurance that it will be continued until their beneficiaries have received payments. He enclosed photostatic copies of the association's regulations and two copies of assessment notices sent one subcriber. He said that since assessment notices are sent through the mail, the League was informing the U. S. authorities of possible fraudulent use of the mails. 5-8-48

The Insurance Commissioner can impose fines of $50 to each non-wilful violation and $500 for each wilful violation of the law, and is required to suspend any insurance company's right to do business until the end of the year, if a violatior is found.

Dr. Sheldon reported that Commissioner Cravey was an honored guest, along with Eugene Talmadge, of the Porterdale, Georgia Klan December 10. "However", he added, "we trust that he will not neglect to do his manifest duty in this case."

Klan Draws 3,000 In Lincolnton Show

The Constitution

Constitution State News Service

LINCOLNTON—More than 3,000 witnessed a parade of 123 hooded Klansmen through downtown Lincolnton last night.

A large cross was burned just outside the City limits, but no disturbances were reported. Although Lincolnton has a large Negro population, few attended the demonstration.

Dr. Samuel Green, of Atlanta, Grand Dragon of the Ku Klux Klan, spoke on white supremacy.

3 1948

KKK (Georgia)

President Truman and the KKK

Daily Worker

THE Ku Klux Klan met yesterday at Stone Mountain, Georgia. New York, N.Y.

Several thousand of them, in hooded robes, from more than a dozen states, held their "Konclave."

The KKK met to plot force and violence against the American Constitution which guarantees equal rights to all citizens, to Negroes, Jews and Catholics included.

The KKK "Konclave" was an impudent display of lawlessness, contempt for the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Mon. 7-26-48

If the United States Constitution is part of "our way of life" then the KKK convention was an open conspiracy to continue to use force and violence against the Government which is supposed to defend the Constitution.

* * *

YET, here is the strange fact—

The Truman Administration and the FBI which just handed down a criminal indictment against 12 American Communist leaders "for advocating force and violence against the Government" were not in the least disturbed by the demands of the KKK for force and violence against Negroes, Jews and Catholics.

No one has been able to charge a single act of force and violence to the Communist Party during the past 30 years. During that time it has courageously fought for

Mon. 7-26-48

Ku Klux Klan conspiracy at Stone Mountain, Ga.

those things that the common people most needed—unemployment insurance, strong trade unions, higher wages, decent housing, Negro rights, as well as for its program of American Socialism under which the entire people will own the industries, not just a few corporations.

But during the same 30 years, the KKK has practiced criminal force and violence on a wide scale. It has wantonly murdered many Negroes. It has burned homes, and terrorized neighborhoods and regions. It has flouted our laws, our Constitution, and our traditions.

But the men in Washington who today are trying to frame the Communists on charges of "force and violence" are blind to the notorious and well known force and violence of the KKK. Daily Worker

Truman did not rush any indictments against the KKK this week. Attorney General Tom Clark sees nothing to bother him in the convention of lynchers and subverters of our Constitution. J. Edgar Hoover's hard-eyed trigger-men were not assigned to pick up the KKK leaders for preaching their bloody doctrines of force and violence against Negroes, Jews, Catholics and other Americans whom the plantation bosses want flogged or murdered. New York, N.Y.

The pliant attitude of the Government toward the Ku Klux Klan's force and violence, and its crude effort to manufacture a non-existent "force and violence" among the Communists tells the whole story. Mon

The Administration does not object to force and violence when it is aimed against Negroes, Jews or other minorities. The Administration talks noisily about the non-existent "force and violence" of the Communists to hide its tolerance of the KKK kind of criminal violence.

The public should not let President Truman or the FBI get away with either their frame-up of the Communists or their inaction toward the KKK. 7-26-48

We urge all citizens to demand the dismissal of the phoney charges against the Communist leaders, and immediate indictments of the leaders of the KKK for practicing force and violence against the United States Constitution!

Wallace Aide Klan Victim

Courier 7/10/48

MACON, Ga.—The Ku Klux Klan burned an eight-foot cross in the front yard of the home of Larkin Marshall, candidate for U. S. Senate on the Wallace ticket, last week. Marshall's home is on Miller Field Road. The burning took place shortly before midnight.

The senatorial candidate and his wife were at home at the time of the burning, but were not aroused. A next door neighbor, Will Ford, called them. When Marshall went out in the yard, the cross was on fire from one end to the other. The persons who fired the cross had fled and left no clue as to their identity except the cross itself. Pittsburgh

A controversy over Marshall's running on the Wallace party ticket while being head of the Bibb County Citizens Democratic Club has raged since the convention here several weeks ago.

White Man Lashed

Ga. Governor Predicts Klan Terror Drive

Washington Post

Atlanta, April 17 (AP).—Savage beating of a young war veteran with a leather lash brought charges by Georgia's Governor today that the Ku Klux Klan is setting out on a systematic terror campaign.

Berry

Gov. M. E. Thompson said the Klan, through a new adjunct called "The Black Riders," has planned a series of floggings and lashings of private citizens in Atlanta, La Grange and "other places." 4-18-48

Solicitor General Paul Webb, meanwhile, said he already had linked the Atlanta flogging with the brutal whipping of a Negro man and woman in La Grange, in South Georgia, several weeks ago. He did not elaborate on the connection but said the Atlanta incident had many "ramifications."

Webb said Troup County officers told him the only reason for the floggings of Limon and Mary Gates was that Gates "was a little too active in a Negro church."

Joe Berry, 23-yer-old unemployed construction worker, was found bent against a tree here Thursday night, partially disrobed, bleeding from a mass of welts across the back. Near-by, officers found cards bearing the words "Black Raiders," a black mast, a pistol and a 2-foot heavy leather strap. Washington, D.C.

Charged With Assault

Five men have been arrested and charged with assault with intent to murder. Police Chief Neal Ellis said 58-year-old Sherman Keheley, a power company lineman, told officers that he and two other accused men were members of the Klan. Sam.

Ellis quoted Keheley as charging Berry had been drinking and causing trouble with Mrs. Berry.

Dr. Samuel Green, grand dragon of the Georgia Klan, denied any connection with "the Black Raiders." He conferred with Solicitor Webb today.

"In fairness to Dr. Green, I must say that he did give me certain information which may prove helpful," Webb commented.

The fifth arrest in the Atlanta flogging was made today. All have been released on $5000 bond each after being indicted by a Fulton County Grand Jury.

Guilty Plea Brings Term To Flogger

The Constitution

With a Georgian pleading guilty and receiving a three-year sentence for alleged participation in brutal floggings—the KKK allegedly was involved—the State moved Tuesday into the prosecution of the first of a group of alleged "Black Raiders" to stand trial. Atlanta

R. B. Ellison, named as a leader in the flogging of Joe C. Berry and Roy Gravitt, entered a plea before Judge Bond Almand and received the maximum penalty allowed for assault and battery.

M. S. Camboia went on trial at 1 p. m. before Judge Almand and a Superior Court Jury, charged with steering the "Black Raiders" party to the home of his brother-in-law, Berry, and participating in his beating.

In his address to the Jury, Sol. Gen. Paul Webb said Camboia "tried to take your job away from you." Defense Atty. Francis Y. Fife asked for a mistrial on the ground the hearing was "prejudicial." Judge Almand overruled the motion, as well as an earlier demurrer to the indictment protesting the charge of "assault with intent to murder."

Capt. P. F. Bradford, witness for the State, quoted the late S. C. Keheley, an alleged member of the Klan-linked "Black Raiders," to the effect that Keheley had ruled Thursday night that S. C. Keheley, accused flogger and Klansman died of a self-inflicted shotgun wound on Wednesday, when his lifeless body was found in the bedroom of his 979 Linam Avenue residence.

Meanwhile Captain Fred Bradford of the Fulton County police department announced the arrest of a seventh suspect J. P. Owens, 46 year-old carpenter, of 418 Pryor St developments were minor Only the floggings laid He is under $5,250 bond. Prior to

Floggers List

J. P. Owens, Age 46
Taken Into Custody
Under $5,250 Bond

Another Suspect Added To Fulton

his arrest, the grand jury had already indicted Owens on a charge of attempted murder, carrying a concealed weapon and impersonating an officer.

At Keheley's inquest, death notes he is alleged to have left were bared.

Other than asking his wife's forgiveness in his suicide, Keheley's note said "I haven't swore to a lie but this is the truth that is killing."

Just what Keheley had in mind in the foregoing statement met with diversified interpretations.

Other than being identified in two white floggings, Keheley was also implicated in the flogging of two Troup county Negroes—Limon Gates and Mrs. Mary Gates, who are distant relatives.

Klan, 'Raiders' Under Double-Barrel Attack

While the Fulton County Grand Jury was indicting an alleged Ku Klux Klan flogging ring Tuesday, the State began investigation of the Klan's death-benefit plan to learn whether State insurance laws had been violated.

The Grand Jury heard testimony of a 35-year-old war veteran, Roy Gravitt, of 968 Pulliam St., who said he had been beaten severely last March 31 by "Black Raider" terrorists—many of whom have been identified as members of the Klan.

The Ku Klux Klan was under fire from a new angle, as Atty. Gen Eugene Cook asked for a check into how the Klan operated its death benefits.

"From information I have obtained," Cook said in a letter to State Insurance Commissioner Zack D. Cravey, "it appears the Association of Georgia Klans is violating our insurance laws." He asked Cravey to investigate the Klan's Death Benefit Association for failure to procure a license, failure to license its agents and failure to file articles of association.

Cook said he had evidence showing the Klan had made assessments on Klan members to pay up to $500 benefits to Klansmen's beneficiaries.

Grand Dragon Samuel Green, head of the Georgia Klan, declared the Klan was not selling insurance—but was operating legally as a death-benefit group within a fraternal organization, and could provide up to $500 without coming under the State's insurance laws.

Alleged "Black Raiders" charged with beating Gravitt included R. B. Ellison, S. C. Kehely, Frank Brand and Leonard Fortner. They were indicted by the Grand Jury for assault with intent to murder Gravitt, and for an additional charge of impersonating an officer. Ellison and Kehely already were under indictment for the brutal beating of Joe C. Berry last Thursday.

Gravitt described his experience with the "Raiders:"

"They came to my home that Wednesday night and told me they were City detectives. They said they wanted me for stealing a car—and I don't even know how to drive. But I went with them. First, they said they had to take me to Dalton to be identified—and then they drove me out Ridgewood Road near the river, made me strip and started beating me."

The veteran said his tormentors declared they were punishing him for "mistreating" his wife, and threatened to leave him in the woods without his clothes. He said they later relented and took him as far as Bolton, where he boarded a streetcar.

"I was in a bad shape," he reported.

The Grand Jury indictment charges the four alleged "Black Raiders" used a two-inch leather strap on the veteran. The flogging took place a short distance from the spot where Berry was flogged, Capt. Fred Bradford, of the Fulton County Police, said.

A carpenter's helper, Gravitt said he and his wife had no children. He said he didn't report his beating to police "because I was scared."

Constitution Staff Photo—Ryan Sanders

RAIDER BEATING VICTIM TELLS STORY — Roy Gravitt, left, tells Sol. Gen. Paul Webb how he was beaten by a group of men, identified as being members of the "Black Raiders." He is the latest victim of the terrorists, many of whom have been identified as members of the Ku Klux Klan.

An Oversight

Editor Constitution: I have just finished reading and re-reading today's issue of The Constitution. I cannot find a news item about the Klan—not even an anti-Klan editoral.

What is the trouble Mr. Editor? You must have slipped up on today's issue. I know you did not mean to leave out all that anti-Klan stuff. The daily papers had better get busy and stay busy and build up a great anti-Klan issue for Mr. Thompson to run for Governor on. He doesn't have any record to run on, so the dailies and the aroused citizens will have to create an issue for him.

The papers had better get busy and send some more drunken news reporters out to break in on some Klan meetings.

Mr. Editor, what would have happened to those fellows if they had forced themselves in on a Masonic meeting or a meeting of any fraternal organization? Do you know? I think you do.

Thousands and thousands of Georgians are beginning to see through the wool pulled over their eyes in previous elections by the press, so come on newspapers lets see if you can pull something big enough to elect Mr. Thompson.

Oh, I had forgotten "Jekyll Island".

Yatesville. O. D. LASHLEY.

Klan and Hitler

Editor Constitution: Maybe I shouldn't write this, but I believe in my country, State and my fellow citizens enough to say that the KKK is to Georgia and the U. S. what Adolf Hitler wa to Nazi Germany. I've been in the Merch Marine for a good many years now and v Germany before the war and saw the r Hitler's influence on the youth of that country. He taught the youth of that country to hate a minority people, the Jews. The Klan is having that same influence on the youth of the South and this State by teaching hate and intolerance against the Negro.

This cowardly group is causing much ridicule, hate and condemnation to be thrown by other people of other States at the State of Georgia. We fought that element in Germany and Japan in this last big "buz." Right now with this "Commie" situation so critical and a third war fomenting, I think we as supposedly civilized folks should try to do something to stop this foolish Klan business. W. J. WOODRUFF.

Cairo.

KLAN BURNS CROSS

[illegible], Ga., Sept. 8 (AP)—A cross about 15 feet high was burned by 20 klansmen in the Negro section of this south Georgia town last night, the eve of the state's Democratic primary.

The klansmen were robed but were not masked. A spokesman said they were members of the original Southern Klans, Inc., which recently broke with the KKK faction headed by Grand Dragon Samuel Green of Atlanta.

While the cross burned at an intersection, a spokesman who identified himself as an Atlanta Baptist preacher declared that Negroes "had no right to vote."

Many Negroes were on the streets at the time, but police reported no incidents.

[illegible] 12,000 persons registered to vote in Lowndes county, of which Valdosta is the seat, about 2,000 are Negroes.

Cross burnings also took place last night in the Negro residential sections of Perry, north of here. Two crosses were burned simultaneously, one near a Negro church where services continued without interruption, and the other near a Negro store.

Georgia Klan Gives Support To Talmadge

MILLEDGEVILLE, Ga., Aug. 13—(UP)—Herman Talmadge, son of the late Gov. Eugene "Ol' Gene" Talmadge, today had the support of the Georgia Ku Klux Klan in his race for governor.

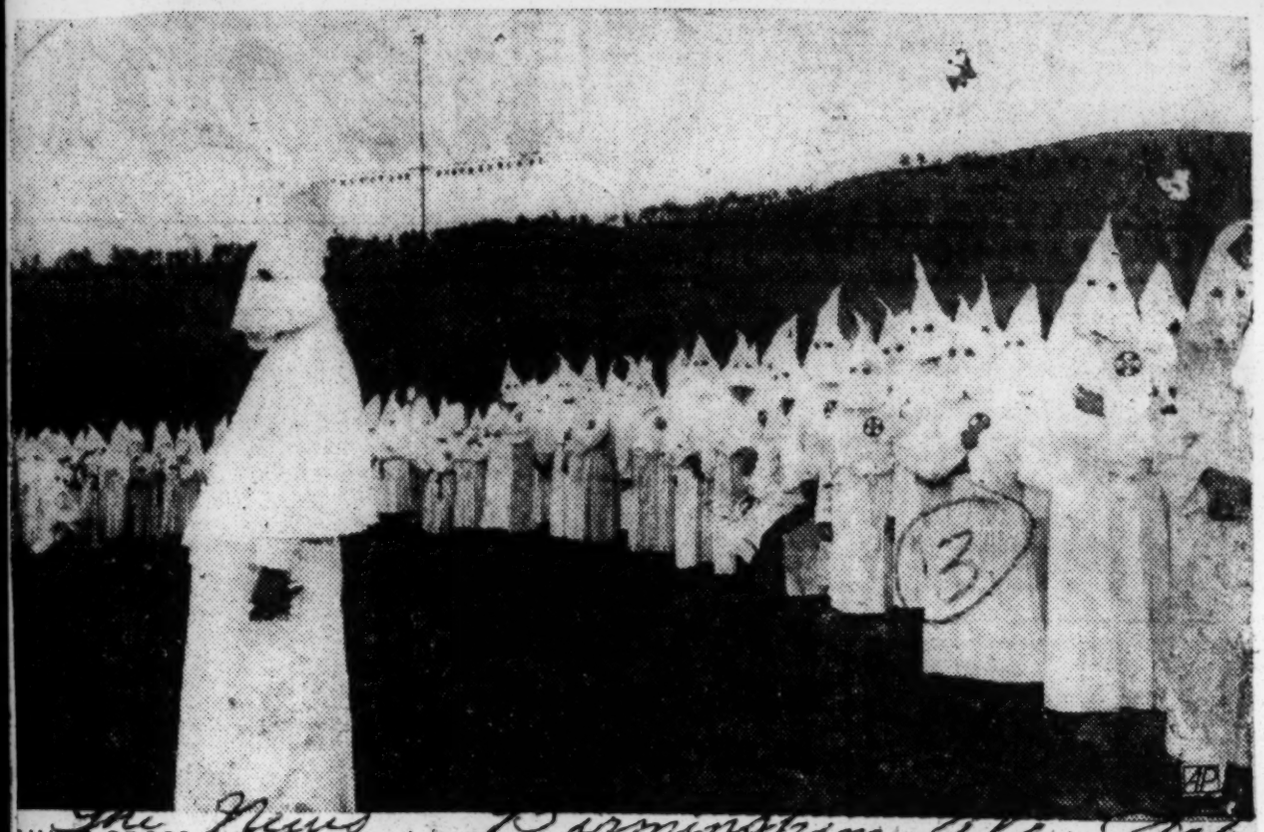
Grand Dragon Samuel Green, wearing green robes and his face unmasked made the announcement at a big klan rally here last night.

The "Ku Klux Klan of Georgia endorses Herman Talmadge for governor . . ." Green told a crowd of 500 white-robed klansmen standing around an electric cross in front of the Baldwin county courthouse.

Green said Talmadge is the only candidate running on a "white primary" platform.

The grand dragon said that young Talmadge had never been a klansman nor had he ever applied for membership. But, he said, Talmadge's chief opponent, Gov. M. E. Thompson, had applied for membership and "had been a member."

Former Governors Ellis Arnall and E. D. Rivers, who are actively supporting Thompson against Talmadge, had also applied for membership and been members of the klan, Green said.



HUGE CROSS BURNS AT K. K. K. CEREMONY—A huge cross burns (background) on Stone Mountain near Atlanta, Ga., Friday in the early evening just after ceremonies began initiating 700 in the hooded order. Robed members of the Ku Klux Klan are in foreground. (Associated Press wirephoto.)

Klan Is On March Again In Georgia, 700 Members Taken In

BY BEM PRICE

STONE MOUNTAIN, Ga., July 24 —(AP)—The Ku Klux Klan is on the march again.

Any doubts were dispelled last night when thousands of the white-robed, hooded knights of the invisible empire assembled in a green field in the purple shadows of Stone Mountain to initiate about 700 new members.

And any doubts that the Klan has a national head with national aims also were discouraged.

* * *

FOR LONG THE KLAN has maintained the various state groups were autonomous, but a red-robed "grand titan" introduced Dr. Samuel Green, grand dragon of the Association of Georgia Klans, as "the official national head of the Klan in America."

This same "titan" gruffly told a reporter who asked his name, "It's none of your damn business. Go on."

License plates from 14 states excluding Georgia were counted, and chartered buses brought in Klansmen from Alabama, Tennessee, Florida and many towns in Georgia.

Dr. Green estimated the number of robed Klansmen present at 5,000 but several newsmen covering the event agreed the maximum could not be more than 3,000.

A walk around the outer circle, however, indicated that among the 7,000 curious spectators were many unrobed Klansmen and many Klan sympathizers.

* * *

THE MERE MENTION of "white supremacy" by Dr. Green brought cheers and hand-clapping from many besides those hidden beneath masks.

Except for one incident the ceremony passed off peacefully. Associated Press Photo Editor Ralph Johnson and an unidentified photographer had climbed atop a bus to make pictures.

Johnson was ordered down and an exposed plate taken from him.

The photographer was dragged from the bus and struck several times in the face until his nose bled.

The fracas was stopped by orders of a robed Klan official and Johnson's plate later was returned.

The ceremony, which began at 8:10 p.m. and lasted about two and a half hours, moved slowly. It opened with a prayer that "God grant wisdom and grace" to Dr. Green.

THEN, BY THE LIGHT OF A FLICKERING, 42-foot high cross, and four smaller ones, together with rose colored railroad fusees, candidates lock-stepped around the arena. Their ranks were five men wide and approximately 150 in column. Led by a robed Klansman bearing a lighted cross, they swore to uphold the Constitution, protect Southern womanhood, and pledged themselves not to commit rape or treason against the United States.

Dr. Green declared the chief aim of the Klan was to maintain "white supremacy," and that if President Truman insists on his civil rights program and sought to enforce it with bayonets, "blood will again flow in the streets." He had said the same thing earlier this year at Wrightsville, Ga.

The Klan vocation was characterized by many of the Ku Kluxers as the largest since the Klan began its postwar resurgence.

The Dragon Smells Blood

The Grand Dragon, talking to his money crop of KKK initiates, "the young, the pot-bellied and the gaunt," at the initiation Friday night said:

"We find ourselves in the same position as the South was in the 1860s . . . "

For once we find ourselves compelled to say that the Dragon is at least partially right. But what follows is interesting. The Dragon is in favor of doing again what the South did in 1860—that is, letting blood flow and marching as to war.

We think that the reported opening of the initiation was symbolic. The "cross," composed of gasoline cans set afire, fell and the heroic Klansmen picked up their skirts like grandma fleeing a mouse and ran from the scene. If they will keep on running from the KKK and especially if they will flee from the Dragon's advice they will find themselves happier and at least $10 better off.

ATLANTA POLICE SEIZE 4 IN YOUTH'S FLOGGING

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

ATLANTA, Ga., April 16—Four men charged with severely flogging J. C. Berry, 23, a World War combat veteran, were indicted today, only a few hours after the beating occurred, and one of the accused quartet said that three were members of the Ku Klux Klan, authorities reported. The motive for the beating was not established.

When the men were arrested last night in a wooded area within the city, officers said they found a quantity of neatly printed placards reading "The Black Raiders," several black masks and a .38-caliber pistol. The placards were in one of the two autos allegedly driven to a spot near the flogging scene by the four men.

Officers said "The Black Raiders" was either a new organization or a unit of the Ku Klux Klan. They said that one of the prisoners, S. C. Keheley, 58-year-old "trouble shooter" of a utility company, confessed he was Klan member and asserted that two companions, R. B. Ellison, 35, and E. W. Mitchell, a brick mason, were also Klansmen. The police stated they would investigate the possibility that another secret organization might have been organized here. M. S. Camboia, 31, a Portuguese, is the fourth man under arrest.

Fulton County police chief G. Neal Ellis said Berry was whipped with a strap about three feet long, three inches wide mounted on a wooden handle.

The alleged floggers were captured after officers sow two parked cars with the license tags covered with rags. The officers said that as they drew up they heard sounds of men fleeing in the woods. Bloodhounds assisted in the capture after a two-mile chase.

Georgia Town Bans KKK Mask

COLUMBUS, Ga.—The city council here recently passed an ordinance outlawing the unrestricted wearing of masks.

The action was aimed directly at banning parades and demonstrations of the Ku Klux Klan, which has been active and brazenly open in this area.

It was the Klan around Columbus, which several weeks ago carried out the sadistic beating of three newspapermen from the Columbus Ledger-Enquirer. It is reported that no substantial action toward prosecution of the KKK members responsible for the beating has been taken, and that two of three reporters have resigned.

2 Groups Quit KKK; Called 'Bolsheviks'

Atlanta, June 29 (AP).—A rift appeared in the Invisible Empire of the Ku Klux Klan in Georgia today when two large Klaverns pulled out to form the "Original Southern Klans, Inc."

The new organization was granted a charter in Muscogee County (Columbus) with Alton E. Pate, a 23-year-old war veteran named as "Grand Wizard."

Dr. Samuel Green, Grand Dragon of the Gergia Klans, brushed off the revolt as an uprising by "Bolshevik Klans which pulled out because they couldn't run things themselves."

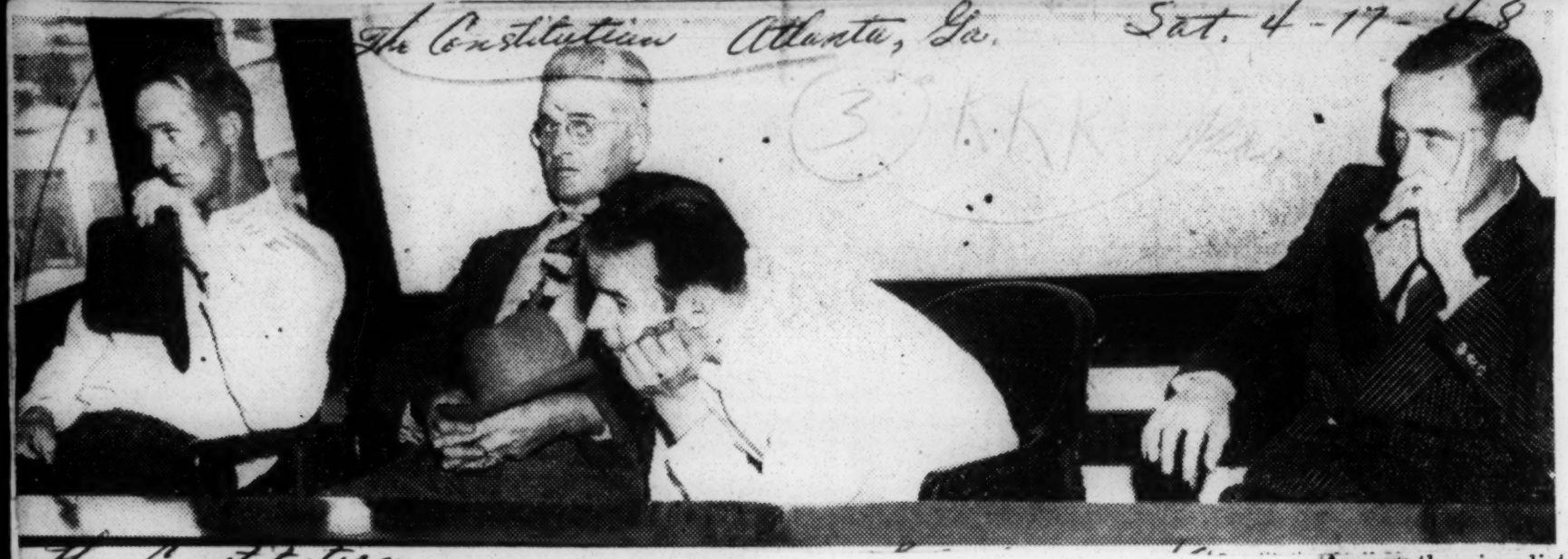
In Atlanta, Georgia Gov. M. E. Thompson accused the Ku Klux Klan of embarking on a new terror campaign. He made his accusation after it was revealed that three KKK members had taken part in the brutal beating of a war vet.

Thompson declared the Klan, through a new organization which was printed "Black Raiders," and also found a black called the Black Raiders, is plotting beatings of private citizens in Atlanta, LaGrange and other cities. The vet, who is 23, is used to flog Berry. One of five Joseph Berry, an unemployed construction worker. suspects arrested declared Berry was not supporting his wife. He did not explain how an unemployed man could do that.

On April 15, he was found bent against a tree, partially unclothed and bleeding from a number of welts on his back. Nearby, police found cards on Samuel Green, Grand announced that the Ku Klux Klan "will support for Governor the present Governor, M. E. Thompson, is about as popular with the voters as Harry Truman.

THE KKK MARCHES

ATLANTA, GA. (NR correspondent)



The Constitution Atlanta, Ga. Sat. 4-17-48

3 KKK

The Constitution

INDICTED IN FLOGGING—Arrested as the "Black Raiders" who brutally flogged 23-year-old Joe Berry, these four men are seen as they appeared at a preliminary hearing Friday at the Fulton County Courthouse. Constitution Staff Photo—Hugh Stova

Left to right are: E. W. Mitchell, S. C. Keheley, M. S. Camboia (a brother-in-law of the victim) and R. D. Ellison. They were indicted on charges of assault with intent to murder and bonds were set at $5,100 each.

The Church Women Condemn the Klan

The Atlanta Council of Church Women are usually to be found on the side of right and justice. Fri 4-16-48

That's why it is not surprising to learn that they have adopted, unanimously, the following resolution: Atlanta, Ga.

"We the members of the Atlanta Council of Church Women, do hereby go on record as condemning the activities and organization of the Ku Klux Klan.

"It is our conviction that in the Democratic process that guarantees life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, there is no place for any organization that denies these freedoms to any American citizen regardless of race, creed, or color.

4-16-48

"We further commend those individuals and organizations in the various sections of our State who have taken action to prevent Klan demonstrations in their local communities." The Constitution

Every Christian organization, yes every Christian individual, should follow the Council's action in condemning, in action as well as resolution, the anti-Christian Klan. Atlanta, Ga. Fri 4-16-48

The Ku Klux Klan Has A New Look of Its Own

THE Grand Dragon of the Ku Klux Klan announces the New Look in fiery crosses. Making ready for a great klonvocation of his fascist goons on top of Georgia's Stone Mountain, Dragon SAMUEL H. GREEN tells how the 1948 model will be bigger, better and longer-burning than ever. It will mark the brightest flowering of inventive genius in the invisible empire since the bed sheet with eyeholes and the brass-tipped flogging strap.

Louisville, Ky.

The old model, of course, was all right in its way. It was just as sacrilegious as any. It could turn a symbol of hope and divine promise into as blasphemous a sign of bigotry, ignorance and fear as you would want to find. But it didn't burn long enough—perhaps, in some cases, not long enough for the boys to skulk for cover and shed their robes. Now, the Grand Dragon explains with apparent pride, they are going to make a superduper, a frame of iron pipe studded with oil-cans that will blaze simply for hours. No more of your trifling wooden things that went up in a puff before a fellow could get even mildly scared by it. Sat. 7-24-48

To be sure, the One Hundred Per Centers still have a long way to go. In his glee as he describes the new gadget, the Grand Dragon seems to forget that the thing still has to be deodorized. The stench doubtless will be as great as ever, if not greater. For what will be burning is not only oil to give off rancid vapors, but the decency and the intelligence of mankind redeemed from brutishness.

". . . WHEN NO MAN PURSUETH"

The Afro-American

Signs of the disintegration of the Ku Klux Klan were noted in Georgia last week where two large klaverns pulled out to form the "Original Southern Klans, Inc."

Reason given is that they want to "return to the original aims and purposes" of the founders of the nightshirt brigade.

Among the aims listed were:

Opposition to the "blending" of the white race with any other;
Maintenance of the Southern white man's political superiority,
Maintenance of the Southern white man's political superiority, and
Prevention of the political dominance of "any inferior minority group. . . ."

Baltimore, Md. Sat. 7-17-48

Attempts to put such safeguards around themselves are tacit admissions of the inferiority of this group which would like to consider itself superior. Men of superior intelligence, culture and wealth are so sure of themselves that they hardly ever give a thought to being unseated.

But the instability of persons whose status is questionable always gives rise to a fear of defeat at the hands of persons, who, regardless of race, color or creed, have demonstrated their superiority. This, in a nutshell, is the predicament in which members of the Klan find themselves today, and they, therefore, grasp at any straw in the hope of saving themselves.

There is a Bibical saying that "the wicked flee when no man pursueth." That is what the KKK is doing today. The "minorities" of which the Kluxers are afraid are so busy making progress that they haven't time to run after ghosts.

Klan Takes On New Mask In Georgia

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

Thurs 7-1-48

The outlawed Ku Klux Klan apparently had gained new legal status in Georgia with the announcement that a charter had been granted the hate order in Muscogee County with Alton E. Pate as "Grand Wizard."

This move came as two large Klaverns pulled out from the strong South-wide Hooded Order to form "Original Southern Klans, Inc."

Judge T. Hicks Ford, of Columbus, took full responsibility for granting the charter.

However, there was a swift denial from Secretary of State Ben F. Fortson that he had granted the Klan group a charter.

The unprecedented action came after Manchester and Columbus Klans differed with the policies of the Association of Georgia Klans, headed by Dr. Samuel Green, who promptly labeled thir action as that of "Bolshevik Klans."

Green described Pate as a "front man" for Parson 'Jack" Johnson a voluble leader in Klan affairs and an un-named Columbus businessman. 7-1-48

Meanwhile, the declaration of principles by the new Klan organization sent researchers probing into history for factual data to support the contention that the group was being formed "to return to the aims and purposes of the Klans of Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest, foun-

PATROLMEN WATCH IN VAIN

Pre-Vote Klan Parades Fail To Materialize

Two pre-election Ku Klux Klan parades reportedly scheduled for Conyers and Lawrenceville Tuesday night failed to materialize as State Patrolmen stood by in the two towns to "watch."

Acting Gov. Thompson, in an "off record" statement, had told newspaper men he was sending Patrolmen to the areas to see there was no violation of State laws if the parades were held.

However, a daily newspaper, not The Constitution, printed a detailed account of the Executive's plans. Whether this premature report had any effect on the parades could not be ascertained.

Dr. Samuel Green, Grand Dragon of the hooded order, denied parades were scheduled in Rockdale or Gwinnett Counties where primary elections will be held today. Officials of the two towns, however, said they had been approached for permission to stage demonstrations.

Mayor J. T. Hicks, of Conyers, said two men, whom he did not identify, had asked him for "written permission" to burn a cross on the Courthouse lawn. Hicks said the two men told him Dr. Green had stated there would be no demonstration unless written permission was received. The Mayor refused permission.

The two also approached two other officials, including Sheriff W. L. McCart, who is running for re-election in today's primary. They were refused by both officials.

Four State Patrol cars cruised about in each of the two communities as curious townspeople rode about in cars or gathered on street corners to "see what would happen."

Pranksters had a field day. At Lawrenceville a "36 inch" cross was burned in front of a Baptist church while at Conyers four crosses were burned. Police said none were traced to KKK.

One of the Conyers crosses was burned on the Confederate Monument and another by the railroad tracks near the town.

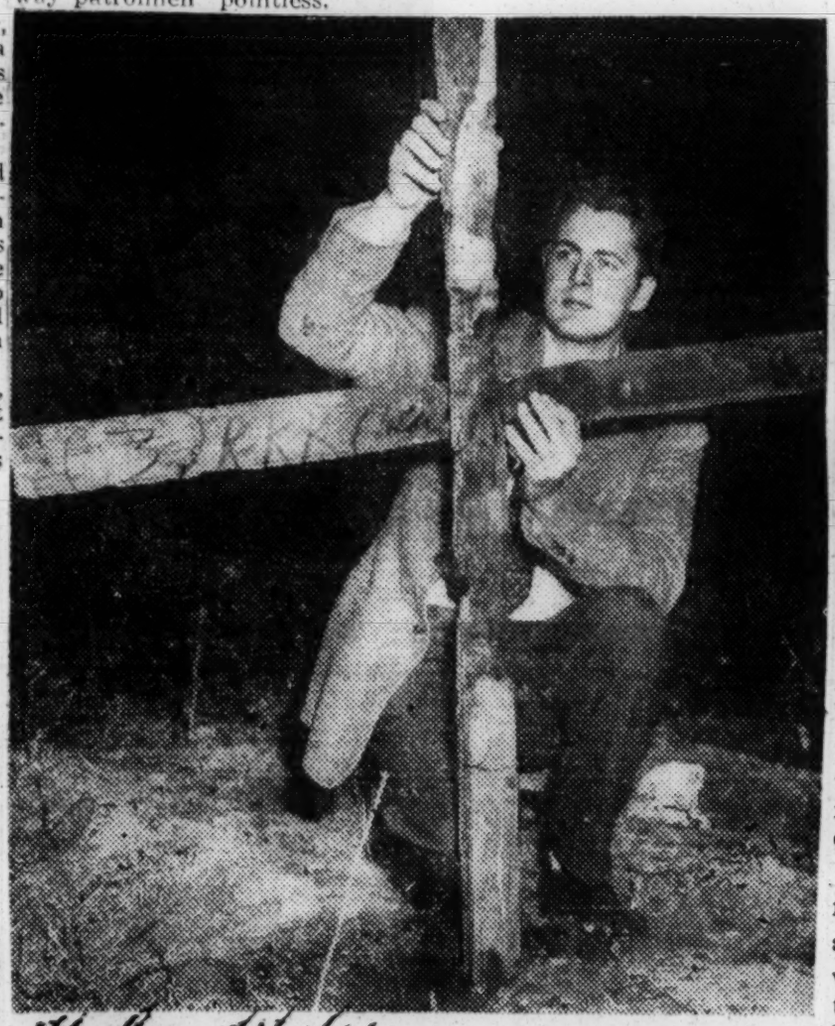
The remains of a burned cross was placed in front of the Rockdale County Bank. A note attached read: "This cross burned at Honey Creek with County fuel oil."

A crudely constructed cross also was burned in a cornfield just

The Klan has staged pre-election parades within the past several weeks. Following such a parade at Wrightsville no Negro cast a ballot in the next day's election.

Gwinnett County (Lawrenceville) has 12,000 registered voters, 800 being Negroes. Rockdale County (Conyers) has 3,600 registered voters, 240 being Negroes.

Don West, Executive Vice Chairman of the Georgia Wallace for President Committee, termed Thompson's action in sending highway patrolmen "pointless."



The Constitution Constitution Staff Photo—Ryan Sand

CORNFIELD CROSS—Jim Furniss, Constitution reporter, inspects a partially burned cross which was found in a cornfield near Conyers Tuesday night. The KKK was reportedly scheduled to stage parades in Conyers and Lawrenceville, but the demonstrations failed to materialize.

Dispense With Klan

Editor Constitution: You are to be commended for the tactful way in which you are showing just how dispensable the Ku Klux Klan is.

Many of our best people are members of the Klan and they have been made to believe that the Klan is an absolute necessity for the preservation of the traditions and principles they hold dear, losing sight of the fact that the Klan could not possibly serve the purpose they have visioned in their minds that might exist.

If all right-thinking people could be made to realize that we are all members of one big organization that has for its preamble the establishment of Justice, the insuring of domestic Tranquillity, the provision for our common defense, the promotion of our general welfare, and the securing of the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity we could know then that the Klan is dispensable, and could feel secure in the thought that we all stand together for the best things in life.

R. M. NICHOLSON.
Watkinsville.

Southern 'Revolt' Sequel

Hooded Hoodlums Ride As Thompson Rants About State's Rights

By Mary Southard

ATLANTA.—"Imagine my embarrassment." This was the only sentiment expressed by Governor M. E. Thompson on his return from the latest Southern governor's conclave against enactment of civil rights laws, when newspaper headlines told him that the Georgia Klan had just carried out a sadistic attack on three white newspapermen from the Columbus **Ledger-Enquirer.**

Gov. Thompson senses, however feebly, that he and his states' rights associates stand exposed before the whole country. In the middle of a tirade about how the states can best protect the civil liberties of their citizens, it is made clear for all to see that the State of Georgia has done and is doing nothing to stop the wave of Klan terror.

The straight record of Klan activity in Georgia during the past few weeks is sharpest expose of Gov. Thompson and the whole southern governors' "revolt."

Klan Kleagle Samuel Green made a public speech in Atlanta bristling with inciting talk of blood running in the streets of the South.

★

IN SWAINSBORO, the Klan held a hooded demonstration at the county court house the night before a county primary, with the express purpose of keeping Negroes from voting. Result: Georgia citizens, Negro voters, were intimidated away from the polls.

In Wrightsville, in east Georgia, 300 masked men and women burned a cross before election day in front of the Johnson County court house with the same intent and with the same result.

In Lakeview, a white school coach was ousted from his job by Klan "pressure," part of which consisted in burning a cross in front of his some while he was away and his pregnant wife was alone.

In Meriwether County, on March 12, three newspapermen from the Columbus **Ledger-Enquirer,** who were trying to report a Klan meeting near Pine Mountain, wer kidnaped and subjected to a brutal and sadistic attack.

★

GOV. THOMPSON'S record on other cases involving the civil liberties of Georgians is no brighter.

● **Horace White,** outstanding textile organizer, is still in jail after more than a year, under a frame-up sentence.

● The governor has been silent on the case of Mrs. Edna Matthews, textile organizer who was robbed, kidnaped and ridden out of town at night by a gang of hoodlums last winter.

● And the governor has turned a deaf ear to national and international appeals for intervention in the case of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two sons, sentenced to die for the self-defense slaying of a white farmer in Ellaville.

★

GOV. THOMPSON has been publicly accused of seeking Klan support for his campaign for lieutenant governor. He has denied it. Be it may, he stands exposed not only as one who has condoned Klan violence but who has fostered the recent outbreaks by his share in the current white-supremacist anti-civil rights campaign of the southern governors and the rotten political cliques for which they speak.

Klan and Communism

Editor Constitution: Communism can never be compatible with democracy, since it is inimical to our beliefs and very existence; therefore, any sympathizer of Communism can be a dangerous person to our country, even though he is not actually or wittingly engaged in un-American activities. Information gathered from the newspapers lately convinces me that Henry Wallace is such a person and should be dealt with the same as others whose interests have been proven to be contrary to the best interests of our country.

If a sympathetic Wallace should be elected President, how easy for Communism to gain the upper hand—if other States have as many counties as Georgia that will sell votes to the highest bidder, and Klansmen to play bogey-men and frighten voters away.

The solution is simple. Ostracize Wallace, eliminate those surplus counties that will sell votes and vote the dead—Georgia has three times as many counties as she needs—and that in turn should tend to weaken the Klan, for there would be more honest people in the remaining counties to fight—and a really aroused public can shame the Klan into ignominy and oblivion.

Atlanta. MRS. LARRY C. SMITH.

No Georgian Is Safe

The Constitution

If the decent people of Georgia have needed any further proof that the Ku Klux Klan and the terrorism it spews cannot longer be tolerated, that evidence is contained in the disclosure that the merciless flogging of a young man here last week was but one of a series perpetrated by Klansmen. And but for the vigilance of Fulton County law enforcement agencies which now has placed officers all over Georgia on the alert, other victims undoubtedly would be marked for brutal beatings by those who set themselves above the law and the good name of their State. Mon. 4-19-48

Three of those who participated in the flogging near Atlanta have been identified as among the group that recently took a College Park resident from his home, cursed and abused him and threatened to kill him. And the same gang is credited by Acting Gov. Thompson with having instigated two floggings in Troup County recently. Atlanta, Ga

The Atlanta young man, who was battered to a bloody pulp by the lashing, said he was "charged" with not supporting his family properly. The College Park victim said he was told to "stop drinking." In Troup County it was a Negro man and woman who felt the Klan whip on their bare backs. The man was beaten because he was "too active in the church," and the woman because she allegedly cursed a white woman. The Constitution

In other words, the Klansmen, Black Raiders or whatever name these scum may give to themselves, are, in their own conceit, superior to the laws of their State and country. The courts are amply able to deal with any of the so-called offenses listed — and the fact that a man was whipped because he was "too active in the church" is sufficient proof that any old pretext will do for a lashing when the Klansmen feel like administering it.

Sol. Gen. Paul Webb's office has done a remarkable job in establishing the Klan link between the several recent outrages. Three Fulton County detectives, Capt. A. C. Bradford, A. C. Adams, Sr., and L. C. Hay, worked literally day and night on clues which, feeble at first, began to magnify and multiply as they went deeper into the case. And it should not be forgotten that the floggings might yet be unrevealed to the public had it not been for the alertness of County Patrolmen A. D. Trollinger and Q. F. Hayes, who discovered battered Joe Berry in a clump of woods and promptly arrested his assailants. Mon. 4-19-48

But until the last Klan Klavern is disbanded and all dealers in hate brought to justice, no Georgian can really feel safe.

2 GEORGIA KKK UNITS FORM RIVAL MOVEMENT

The Courier New York, N.Y.

ATLANTA, June 29 (AP)—A rift occurred in the Georgia Ku Klux Klan today when two large Klaverns withdrew from the "original Southern Klans, Inc." Wed.

The new organization received a charter in Muscogee County (Columbus) with Alton E. Pate, 23 years old, a veteran, named as "grand wizard." 6-30-48

Dr. Samuel Green, head of the Association of Georgia Klans, said that the new group was formed from the Manchester (Ga.) and Columbus Klans. Both have long been extremely active chapters. He termed the revolt as an uprising by "Bolshevik Klans which pulled out because they couldn't run things themselves."

Mr. Pate said earlier that the new group would ban the wearing of masks, except during "ritualistic ceremonies" and on Klan property. He listed its aims as follows:

Defense of Protestant Americanism, opposition to the "blending" of th white race with any other, maintenance of the "Southern white mn's political superiority," prevention of political dominance by "any inferior majority group," and opposition to the "teachinggsg ogf the Communist party which embody advocacy of sexual equality under the guise of social equality." 6-30-48

WALLACEITE CHARGES KLAN

The Constitution

Fiery Summons Signal For War Against 3d Party

Atlanta, Ga

Sat. 7-3-48

Henry Wallace and Dr. Samuel Green, Grand Dragon of the Ku Klux Klan, weren't thinking about each other when they set their respective jamborees for the same day—July 23.

At least, that's the word from Dr. Green, who said he didn't know the Wallaceites were convening in Philadelphia July 23 when he issued a "fiery summons" for a "Klonvocation" at Stone Mountain the same date.

Dr. Green insists he's strictly a "Grier's Almanac Man" himself —always consults the almanac when setting the time for outdoor ceremonials. He wants the weather to be just right for his functions, he says.

C. B. Baldwin, manager of Wallace's campaign, claimed Dr. Green had sent out 500,000 copies of his "fiery summons" for the "Klonvocation," when 1,000 new members are slated to be initiated, "as the signal for all-out war against the only political party which really is fighting racial and religious dscriminaton n Amerca."

While Grand Dragon Green admits the Klan is opposed to everything Wallace stands for, he maintains the simultaneous scheduling of the meetings is purely coincidental. Sat. 7-3-48

Baldwin asserted Larkin Marshall, Negro candidate for U. S. Senator from Georgia on the Wallace ticket, "would not be intimidated" by the burning of a "fiery cross" on the lawn of his Macon home Wednesday night.

Meanwhile, Atlanta Girl Scout leaders confirmed the fact that two Negro Girl Scout troops from near Bessemer, Ala., would attend an all-Negro Girl Scout camp at Camp Orr near Atlanta July 11-Aug. 1. The leaders pointed out that an open invitation had been extended to Negro Girl Scouts to attend the camp. The Alabama camp was visited by robed men who protested the presence of two white women instructors.

Marshall Lays Cross-burning To Talmadgeites

The Worker New York, N.Y. Sun. 7-11-48

By Abner W. Berry

Larkin Marshall, new party candidate in Georgia for the U. S. Senate, told The Worker this week he suspects Talmadge Democrats were behind the burning of a cross last week before his Macon home.

Marshall, who heads the Negro Democratic Club in Macon told The Worker by phone that preparations for the Georgia State Democratic convention was accompanied by anti-Negro propaganda. This race-incitement, he thought, had much to do with the cross-burning on the night of June 30.

The militant Negro political leader, editor of the weekly **Macon World**, was told to leave town by a white acquaintance, he said, before the Klan cross was burned. For security reasons he refused to divulge the name of the person issuing the veiled threat.

"I have a good idea who is responsible for the burning cross," Marshall declared, "but I don't want to give any information which might impede the police."

★

THREE DAYS following the incident, he said there had been no activity on the part of the State Police. A special appeal to the Governor and State officials had been made by James S. Barfoot, new party candidate for Governor of Georgia and former instructor at the University of Georgia. Sun.

The Georgia Democratic Convention was in progress in the City Auditorium as Larkin spoke to The Worker. One of the important matters it considered was how to prevent the Negroes from voting in the Democratic primaries. In fact, Larkin said, they would like to take the vote away from the Negroes altogether. 7-11-48

★

AS EVIDENCE of the success of the new party, Larkin cited three meetings addressed by Paul Robeson on June 19 and 20.

On June 20, 3.000 persons, mostly Negroes, packed an unsegregated third party rally to hear Robeson in Wheat Street Baptist Church, Atlanta. Earlier the same day Robeson addressed 1,500 in Macon's Stewart Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church. N.Y.

The day before that 1,000 jammed the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Athens, to hear Robeson. These meetings, Larkin said, gave white supremacy Democrats the jitters.

"My candidacy against Sen. Richard B. Russell," Larkin said, "has been meeting with more than (there are 180,000 registered in Georgia) and the Talmadge people are scared by it. They would like to kill the Negro vote and the third party in addition to keeping Negro voters out of the Democratic primary. I think that was one reason for burning the cross in front of my home—to frighten me and other Negroes who want to have a say-so in the running of State affairs." The Worker

Larkin said he was not frightened, that he and his neighbors are guarding his home. "I'm going to stay right here and fight it out, he said. New York, N.Y.

3 1948

KKK (Georgia)

The Grand Dragon Calls It Off

The Constitution

As one of several newspapers in the State which took the lead in exposing the Ku Klux plan to burn crosses and hold nightshirt parades on the eve of county primaries, we note with gratification and amusement the Grand Dragon's announcement that the campaign of intimidation has been called off.

Atlanta, Ga.

We also take pleasure in the fact that The Constitution could, based on information supplied us by a Klan member who was sick and ashamed of his membership, publicize in advance—and thus prevent—the burning of a cross in two adjoining counties which recently held primaries.

Fri. 3-5-48

The Klan was, in effect, working with enemies of the South, the radical and Communist Negro organizations, every time it made a public appearance. That will hold true in the future. Every appearance was a blow to the best interests of the South. If the Klan can intimidate, we do indeed need Federal protection.

The Constitution

We would like also to point out again that any community which supports a Klavern of the Klan supports a civic cancer. Wrightsville's good people may be able to save a new industry which decided to go elsewhere after the Klan appearance there. But it will be difficult. No businessman wants to invest his money in business or industry in a community where the Klan is active. Atlanta, Ga.

The Klan doesn't amount to much now. Its membership is low. It will amount to less and less as decent people awake to its meaning. Fri. 3-2-48

A Serious Question For Both Races

Daily World, Atlanta, Ga.

The action of the Ku Klux Klan in burning a cross, holding a mass parade and having its Grand Dragon, Dr. Samuel Green make threatening and inciting statements Tuesday night on eve of an election at Wrightsville, Georgia in Johnson County, poses a serious question to responsible leaders of both racial groups in the State.

Thurs. 3-4-48

Press reports state that of the 400 Negroes registered for the county election, none voted after the threatening demonstrations by the hooded group. We will not comment on what we think the Negroes should or should not have done in this situation. However, we feel that this conduct of the Klan is a violation of the spirit if not the letter of the Constitution, and therefore, both state and federal officials should take all possible action against the leaders of the Klan.

In meantime, if nothing is done by the state or federal officials, this Klan technique used at Wrightsville will spread over the state, we fear. And realizing the necessity of the use of the ballot for our physical security, we don't see how the Negro leadership in the state can afford to let that happen. We are thus confronted with a serious question which commands immediate consideration by our leadership. The recent Klan conduct should be embarrassing not only to Negroes of the state but to thoughtful white citizens. In like manner, the Klan conduct must be embarrassing to white leaders who are fighting President Truman's Civil Rights program and offering nothing in its place.

We have often stated in these columns that we will never back down on our right to vote regardless to any consequences that might come as a result of our exercising that right. This is the attitude that all Negroes must adopt toward the franchise. Daily World

From this standpoint the Negroes at Wrightsville Wednesday not only failed to stand up to their duty but they let Negroes down in other parts of the state. We state this not-with-standing the fact that the framers of our Constitution, in our opinion, did not contemplate that a citizen should have to fight his way to the polls and his way back home. Atlanta, Ga.

However, if our state and the federal government impose this responsibility upon us, then we have no alternative. Thurs. 3-4-48

What happened at Wrightsville shows clearly the need for a bigger defense fund to protect us not only from physical violence but to protect our Civil Rights as well.

Will our leadership accept this challenge? We believe it will.

KLAN ON MARCH IN GEORGIA

The Times Newsfoto, N.J.

Issues of Communism and the Civil-Rights Program Are Helping It Grow

Sun. 3-28-48

By GEORGE HATCHER

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES

ATLANTA, Ga., March 27—The Ku Klux Klan is surging again in Georgia, burning its crosses and parading in widely scattered sections of the state. Although operating without a state charter, there seems to be no doubt that the Klan's strength is greater at any time since it flourished during the Nineteen Twenties.

There has been a noticeable increase in Klan demonstrations since President Truman's civil-rights program was proposed. Recent international developments also are said to have spurred the Klan's drive for members, as the hooded organization asserts that it is engaged in a war against communism. The Times

Negroes Intimidated

In recent weeks, the Klan campaign in Georgia has formed a specific pattern. The state's counties this year have their local elections. And in many of these localities where ballots have already been cast, Gov. M. E. Thompson charges the KKK has sought to scare Negroes away from the polls. The "intimidations" have ben in the form of parades and cross-burnings on the nights before elections.

Leading editors in Georgia have taken a vigorous stand against the Kluxers and have commended groups of Negroes who defied the Klan warnings. However, election managers in most localities report large numbers of Negroes have been "too scared" to vote.

State Law Planned

Governor Thompson has taken the lead in opposing the Klan's activities. He says he will propose at the next session of the Legislature a state law which would bar demonstrations by hooded groups.

Meanwhile, at least four Georgia communities have taken steps, through Council regulations requiring permits, to keep hooded Ku Klux Klansmen from conducting parades and cross burnings.

Columbus Papers Declare War On KKK After Attack On Trio

Montgomery Ala. Advertiser

COLUMBUS, GA., March 13.—(AP)—The newspapers here grimly and openly declared war on the Ku Klux Klan Saturday night after three newsmen told of being manhandled—and worse—by members of the hooded order.

President A. H. Chapman of the Columbus Ledger-Enquirer Company said the three were Reporters Jim Bellows and Johnson and Photographer Joe Talbot.

The three, said Chapman, were attacked while covering a Klan meeting at Shiloh about 40 miles from here and were not only roughed up, but drugged. While they were drugged, said Chapman, "compromising" pictures were made.

Dr. Samuel Green, grand dragon of the Klan, said in Atlanta that he attended the meeting and there was no disturbance. He denied the accusations in full and said he certainly would have known about any pictures.

Even as Dr. Green issued his denial, Collier said a telephone call had been received from a Klansman offering to show Johnson the pictures.

Collier characterized the whole business as a "deliberate plant" and said in a front page editorial that the papers accepted the man as they sat in a car on the outskirts of town and jailed on a telegram to Attorney General Tom Clark, asked for a Federal investigation. He said the three were arrested by a night police- Newspaper President Chapman, about 30 miles No date for the trial has been Police Chief E. set, but Collier said the light three newsmen against the Klan "will begin right there."

They were after posting three bonds of $8.75 each

by Dr. Samuel Green. . . ."

The three said they each had been forced to drink a pint of whiskey and that Klansmen told them if they didn't drink, they would be forced to do so.

Talbot said he twice was given injections in the leg and that Johnson was given a shot in the arm. Bellows said he became unconscious after being given the whiskey. Sun. 3-14-48

Collier said the three told this story:

At no time did they attempt to conceal their identity at the meeting and while the Klavern was cross-burning, Talbot made several pictures, one showing Dr. Green unmasked and wearing a green robe.

Abruptly they were seized and Talbot's camera taken and plates smashed. The camera was not returned. Sun. 3-14-48

The trio was taken to their car and here the pictures made by Klansmen using another camera.

Two Klansmen got in the car and started toward Manchester, another car followed. Just outside the town the Klansmen abanwiping the car U jt)- rdt kad ko doned the newsmen after carefully wiping the car off for fingerprints. Within a few minutes the local policeman appeared and arrested the trio.

Cross Burned At Macon

The Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.

Constitution State News Service.

MACON, June 16—A small cross was burned late tonight in the front yard of a house owned by Dr. Dewitt D. Walton, one of the South's most prominent Negro dentists.

The cross, measuring six feet high and five feet across, was extinguished by the Macon Fire Department. 6-17-45

Police who investigated the burning said nine small stickers, bearing the letters "KKK" and a picture of a white-robed rider on a horse, were pasted on the front door glass of the house at 215 College St., near Wesleyan Conservatory.

Discounting the theory it may have been the work of pranksters, police said definitely it was the work of a "large organization."

The house, until June 1, occupied by a white family, is slated to be rerented to a Negro family, according to reports here, police said. 6-17-45

Klan Trial 'Impossible,' Columbus Probe Finds

The Constitution
Atlanta, Ga. Wed. 4-7-48

State investigators said Tuesday prosecution would be "impossible" in the case of three Columbus newspapermen who charged they were manhandled by hooded Ku Klux Klansmen.

The Georgia Bureau of Investigation, after a three-week probe ordered by Acting Gov. Thompson, reported it could neither confirm nor deny the newsmen's story.

Reporters Jim Bellows and Carlton Johnson and Photographer Joe Talbot, Jr., of the Columbus Ledger-Enquirer, said they were mistreated while attempting to cover an initiation of 125 Klansmen at Pine Moutain, near Shiloh, March 12. 4-7-48

They said their pictures were seized, they were forced to drink a pint of whiskey each, take hypodermic injections, pose for compromising pictures, and then were left by a roadside to be arrested for drunkenness. Wed.

"It must be remembered that the Klan is a type of an organization that would stoop to manufacturing evidence," said the report to Thompson by Capt. W. C. McLemore, Director of the GBI.

"Therefore, it would be impossible to prosecute successfully, since they would be in a position to furnish approximately 175 witnesses against the newspaper reporters' testimony." 4-7-48

The 16-page report made this conclusion: Atlanta, Ga.

"Although we have developed no definite information as to whether or not the newspaper reporters' story is true, we have found no evidence disputing the facts of the Pine Mountain incident as related by these reporters, except the statement of the officer concerning their arrest (on drunkenness charges) and the denials of Fred New to the charges made by the Columbus Ledger-Enquirer."

SWAINSBORO FOREST BLADE

Atlanta Constitution
Atlanta, Ga. Mar. 3-22-48

Sanity Doesn't Seem To Be News

There was no violence, of course, concerning the imprisonment of the killers of Garland Fields in the local county jail, but we feel that Gov. Thompson acted wisely in demonstrating to others that Emanuel County residents are law-abiding people.

It was our misfortune to have a law-defying group of Klansmen parade here recently though they violated no written laws that particular night. The fact that they paraded was broadcast to the world, but we've not even heard one minor echo to the fine job the Mayor and City Council did in barring them from future demonstrations. Mar. 3-22-48

So, we can be definitely assured that those who would make political capital of the South's problems or those who think we're a bunch of hot-headed ignoramasuses who have inadequate and incompetent law enforcement, would pounce on the opportunity to point out that those accused of a crime weren't safe until the due processes of law operated—if the act occurred in Swainsboro and Emanuel County have found nothing for which to feed.

We're proud of the fact that we are not furnishing worldwide news again today. In our small way, by acting like the sober and sane citizens we are, we're quietly demonstrating to the world the dynamic fact that seems to always be missed by the fellow on the other side of the street . . . we're just like him.

Georgia Klansmen Charged With Manhandlina Newsmen

Atlanta Constitution
Atlanta, Ga. Sun. 3-14-48

COLUMBUS, Ga., March 13—(AP)—A newspaper publisher charged Saturday—and the head of the Georgia Ku Klux Klan promptly denied—three newsmen were manhandled and drugged Friday night at the sceen of a Klan cross-burning. Sun. 3-14-48

President A. H. Chapman, of the Columbus Ledged-Enquirer Company, said the three—Reporters Jim Bellows and Carlton Johnson and Photographer Joe Talbot—were attacked while covering a K. K. K. gathering at Shiloh, 40 miles from here.

Dr. Samuel Green, of Atlanta, grand dragon of the Georgia Klan, said he was at the meeting of the Klan clubhouse atop Pine Mountain but knew nothing about "anybody being roughed up."

At Manchester, about 30 miles from Columbus Police Chief E. T. Keevle said the three were arrested on the outskirts of the town by a night policeman while seated in their car. They were jailed on a charge of being drunk and were released this morning after posting bonds of $8.75 each.

Keevle said no date for the trial has been set. The Herald

The newsmen had followed a caravan of Klansmen from Columbus to the clubhouse near the Little White House where President Roosevelt died.

Chapman, in a telegram to Attorney General Tom Clark, asked an investigation of the incident. He said the newsmen were "violently handled and given injections of what appears to be narcotics by a gathering of members of the Ku Klux Klan headed in person by Dr. Samuel R. Green."

Bryan Collier, editor of The Ledger, said the news men gave this account of their experience:

At no time did they attempt to conceal their identity or presence at the gathering. While the cross was being burned, Talbot made several pictures, one showing Dr. Green, who wore a green robe with hood, but was not masked.

After the news men were seized, Talbot's camera was taken and the plates smashed. The camera was not returned. 3-14-48

The trio was then taken, with Bellows "passed out," to the news men's car. (The klansmen were traveling in three busses.) Talbot was placed in the front seat and a klansman, using another camera, made a picture of him. Bellows and Johnson were placed in the back seat. The Herald

Bellows' trousers were lowered and Johnson was then placed in "a compromising position," while the klansman made other pictures.

Two klansmen, wearing robes with their masks pushed aside, got in the car and started toward Manchester. Just inside the city limits of Manchester, the news men's car was stopped and the klansmen got out. Birmingham, Ala.

Within a minute or so after the klansmen had left two Manchester policemen appeared and arrested the trio.

Newsmen's Blood Shows Trace of 'Knock-Drops'

The Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.

COLUMBUS, March 21—(INS) Ku Klux Klan March 13.

A Columbus pathologist revealed Sunday that a "slight trace" of chloral hydrate (knock-drops) was found in the bloodstreams of two of the three Columbus Ledger newsmen who claimed they were manhandled and drugged by the Klan after liquor was allegedly forced down his throat, was not injected with chloral hydrate, according to Dr. Charles L. Blumstein added. Blumstein. The Constitution

The three men face trial on a charge of drunkenness in Monday. Atlanta

3 1948

KKK (Georgia)

(From Late Editions of Yesterday's TIMES.)

KLAN WARNS COACH TO GET OUT OF TOWN

The Times
New York, N.Y.

Georgia Sheriff, Asked for Aid, Says He Told Teacher He Was 'Just as Scared'

Fri. 2-6-48

LAKEVIEW, Ga., Feb. 4 (AP)—Walter Bowland, athletic coach at Lakeview High School, said tonight he had been warned to get out of town or be tarred and feathered. He said John B. Burks, school principal, received the warning:

"Get Bowland out of town or he will be tarred and feathered. Then you will be tarred and feathered."

The threats were inspired, said Messrs. Bowland and Burks, by a fight at the gymnasium between the coach and Marion Hayes, a student at the University of Chattanooga and former student at Lakeview High.

Mr. Bowland said eighteen hooded members of the Ku Klux Klan lighted a cross in front of his house on Jan. 16 while he was absent on a basketball trip. He added that his wife kicked over the cross and called the hooded men "yellow cowards." He said he asked Sheriff Jim Moreland of Catoosa County for protection and the sheriff refused.

The sheriff, in a statement to The Chattanooga Times tonight, said: The Times

"This is what I said to him (Bowland). 'I'm just as scared of the Ku Klux Klan as you are. You should conduct yourself in such a way that the Ku Klux Klan wouldn't appear in front of your house'".

New York, N.Y.

Mr. Bowland said he found his wife hid in the front yard with a shotgun Jan. 27 watching a group of men gathered on adjacent property. No threat was made at that time, he added. Fri. 2-6-48

Messrs Burks and Bowland said today they had decided to leave Lakeview High School at the end of the current school year, but added that they "will not leave before then and will not be intimidated by the Ku Klux Klan."

PAPERS' KLAN CHARGE SET FOR FBI INQUIRY

3-14-48 The Times

COLUMBUS, Ga., March 14 (U.P.)—Columbus newspapers today pressed for a full-scale investigation of charges that three of their staff members were abused by the Ku Klux Klan at a night meeting of the hooded order.

The Ledger Inquirer papers issued a "declaration of war" against the Klan yesterday after the charges were first made public. They also demanded state and Federal inquiries into Klan activities.

Gov. M. E. Thompson said he would order an investigation by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation. New York, N.Y.

In Washington Attorney General Tom Clark indicated FBI agents would be assigned to check on civil liberties' violations. Times

Hollis Cooper, assistant circulation manager for The Ledger, resigned the post he had held for eighteen years last night when confronted with statements by the newsmen that he was one of the Klansmen. 3-15-48

Reporters Jim Bellows and Carlton Johnson and staff photographer Joe Talbot charged they were seized by Klansmen at a cross-burning atop Pine Mountain, near Manchester, Ga., Friday night.

They said they had acted openly in snapping pictures of the cross-burning and of Dr. Samuel Green, Georgia Grand Dragon, who wore a green robe and was unmasked. They charged the Klansmen forced them to drink a pint of whiskey and that hypodermic injections, apparently containing drugs, were forcibly administered.

The three newsmen are under $8.75 bond each in Manchester, where police arrested them Friday night as being under the influence of alcohol. 3-15-48

The Enquirer, in 1926, won a Pulitzer Prize for a Klan expose.

Enemies Behind Hoods

To the Editor of The News: The News

As I read letters daily in The News I seem to find thoughts of people who are thinking of the weakness of our country and the danger of a fifth column, with its chances of deceiving all of us. Birmingham, Ala

Some two or three years ago there was a law or a court ruling against any organization or group of people wearing a hood or disguise in public. This would be a good practice now when we read daily of those who would like to break down our government and our way of life. By resorting to such means, our enemies could get an advantage of us. Mon. 3-22-48

The Ku Klux Klan appears to have been revived, especially in Georgia. Perhaps its members think it a good organization, but just think what an opportunity we are giving to other organizations that might wish to keep unknown the identity of their members. Such organizations, by hiding behind masks and hoods, might not be suspected of disloyal operations until it was too late. Moreover, an innocent organization might be blamed for what another did.

Will we as American people wake up and be consistently on our guard instead of possibly aiding our enemies with such practices as permitting people to hide, in public, behind hoods? By such practices we may open the way for the activities of enemies in our midst.

JOHN F. REAVES.

28 North Street, Greensboro. Ala.

He Resigns

Times 3-16-48

HOLLIS COOPER

COLUMBUS, GA., March 15.—(AP)—Hollis Cooper, assistant circulation manager of the Columbus, Ga. Ledger and Enquirer, resigned Saturday afternoon, after three members of the paper reported they saw him at a Ku Klux Klan meeting in which they claimed they were manhandled by Klansmen. Times 3-16-48

Cooper, of Phenix City, Ala., was criticized by three reporters who claimed that the Klansmen forced them to drink a pint of whisky apiece, drugged and compromised with obscene pictures taken by Klan members.

Grand Dragon Announces Plan For Future

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
Fri. 4-2-48

Says Parade Date At Wrghtsville Set Himself

The Grand Dragon of the Ku Klux Klan, Dr. Samuel Green, has reportedly asserted that his hooded organization will burn no more crosses and perform in no more demonstrations on the eve of coming elections.

Green remarked that he turned down a request Wednesday from a chapter of the order which wanted to stage an election eve demonstration in a Georgia town whose name was not disclosed.

His reason as claimed:

"It might be construed as intimidation."

Following action by a group of Wrightsville citizens in retaining services of Attorney Dan Duke to sue Green and the Klan for a cross burning and demonstration on an election eve there, Green offered the following reply:

"I set the date for the Wrightsville demonstration myself. Originally I was to grant the Wrightsville Klan a charter in January. It was changed to Feb. 25 but I changed it to the date it was held because it was the first date I had available."

NATION AROUSED

The Grand Dragon and his Klansmen aroused national indignation in the pre-election demonstration at Wrightsville and a like demonstration and cross-burning at Jeffersonville, however, when despite the intimidation, over 200 Negroes voted at the polls.

The Klan Divides

The Constitution

Editor Constitution: I am of the opinion we here in Georgia have enough law, if enforced, to keep order. As to Ku Klux Klan, that is only for the ungodly, they who are so narrow they want all to see as they see and ask advice of them. And when a smart aleck or a low-bred Northerner comes to teaching and associating with Negroes, there something starts. We really need the Negroes to farm and to soldier, too; in fact, they are dependable now. Atlanta, Ga.

There's no Christianity, law or order about hidden things like Ku Klux Klan business. People who are agitating at that now, if it dies down peaceably, will begin something else.

We are just before another war and need all our forces to fight it. If this work of the enemy of all men keeps us divided—we are domed as a nation. Mon. 3-29-48

Pineview. CLAUDIA BENNETT.

"K.K.K." Letter Turned Over To FBI Investigators

Constitution
Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
Thurs 4-1-48

Rev. H. Hall, of 418 Gray Street N. W. Wednesday had turned over to the Georgia Federal Bureau of Investigation a letter signed by the "K.K.K." alleging a disturbance in his home and threatening violence action.

The letter was addressed to Mrs. Gertrude Hall, wife of the minister and said: Thurs 4-1-48

"If you don't cool down and stop your fussing and fighting we will see if there is not a way to stop you. Tell Norman (the Halls' son) that this applies to him too. If your husband can't stop you we will.

Thurs 4-1-48 K. K. K.--s"

Rev. Mr. Hall, who pastors churches in Stone Mountain and Newnan, said there had been no disturbance in his home, but suspected the matter concerned other disturbance which he said had been occurring in a nearby dwelling.

Klan Parades, Protesting Civil Rights

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky

Won't Permit a Race Of Mongrels, Head Says

Wrightsville, Ga., March 2 (AP)—Some 300 hooded and robed Klansmen paraded here tonight and heard their leader declare that "blood will flow in the streets of the South" if the Negro takes a place at the side of white men around the cross and heard Dr. congressmen to protect your County primary. About 5,600 through the force of federal bay- Samuel Green, Georgia grand rights. persons are qualified to vote in onets. Tues 3-3-48 dragon, criticize President Tru- "President Truman is facing the county. The county has a The Klansmen burned a 15- man's civil-rights program with certain defeat unless he retracts population of 14,500, including foot-high cross on the Courthouse these words: some of his statements. about 4,500 Negroes. lawn after parading around the "We reaffirm our loyalty to the "If he wants to take the square. They formed a circle Constitution, our vow to uphold as his equal, that's his business."

Says Truman Faces Defeat.

"The Klan will not permit the people of this country to become a mongrel race.

"There are people in this country who would deny you your very lives in order to get the Negro vote. Wed. 3-3-48

"I call on you to write to your

down a request Wednesday from a chapter of the order which wanted to stage an election eve demonstration in a Georgia town whose name was not disclosed.

His reason as claimed:

"It might be construed as intimidation."

Following action by a group of Wrightsville citizens in retaining services of Attorney Dan Duke to sue Green and the Klan for a cross burning and demonstration on an election eve there, Green offered the following reply:

"I set the date for the Wrightsville demonstration myself. Originally I was to grant the Wrightsville Klan a charter in January. It was changed to Feb. 25 but I changed it to the date it was held because it was the first date I had available."

NATION AROUSED

The Grand Dragon and his Klansmen aroused national indignation in the pre-election demonstration at Wrightsville and a like demonstration and cross-burning at Jeffersonville, however, when despite the intimidation, over 200 Negroes voted at the polls.

The Klan and the Commies

Atlanta Constitution

It is becoming increasingly apparent the Ku Klux Klan has embraced as brothers with an identical purpose the radical Negro organizations and the Communists of the North. Atlanta, Ga.

Last weekend Georgia's Acting Governor, M. E. Thompson, was one of seven Southern chief executives who went to Washington to protest against the civil rights proposals of President Truman. Mon. 3-15-48

It does not matter what various individuals think of Acting Gov. Thompson, or whether they are for him or against him. That does not enter into it.

The point is he was there.

And while he was there the Ku Klux Klan violated the civil rights of other persons; mocked the law, bringing national shame to Georgia and the South; caused the Moscow radio to tell its people about the goons and the lack of law and order in the United States; and otherwise cut the feet out from under whatever effort was being made in behalf of the South.

Every time a decent Southerner speaks up, the goons in the Klan commit some act of violence and disorder which make those seeking to serve the South appear ridiculous. Tues. 3-16-48

The Klan doesn't look strange with the radical Negro and Communist agitator as brothers. Before the Second World War the Ku Klux Klan was working with the Nazi bund.

They are of the same persuasion—to do what damage they can to this country.

Into the Hands of Our Enemies

The Constitution

Let's be honest with ourselves. Atlanta, Ga.

At a time when the decent people of the South are asking the nation not to impose Federal laws creating certain civil rights statutes, the un-American and anti-Southern Ku Klux Klan stages an exhibition in Wrightsville, Ga., on the eve of a primary. Fri. 3-5-48

The Ku Klux Klan thereby gave those who push the civil rights measures more ammunition than they needed.

As long as the Klan openly and flagrantly prevents civil rights, the Federal Government cannot well refuse to act.

There are plenty of laws to protect civil rights.

The recent action of Judge Henry West, in the Oconee Circuit, in throwing out all jury panels because Negroes had systematically been excluded from them, was a courageous one, but it was also the law. It long has been the law. Atlanta, Ga.

Yet Dan Duke, the attorney who presented the case, was abused by some of the hangers-on outside the courthouse for insisting upon the law. The South has said—and we have said with the South—that we will solve the problem if given time. The Constitution

But even as we say it, the Ku Klux Klan and the heedless crowds about courthouses who object to the law already written, give to our enemies the strength to push through Federal laws. There already exists a law which would enjoin it from such actions—but we ignore it. 3-5-48

No more shameful below-the-belt blow was ever struck the South than that struck by the Ku Klux Klan on Tuesday night in Wrightsville. They have delivered us into the hands of our enemies.

Klan Planning Big Initiation At S. Mountain

The Constitution

Atlanta, Ga.

A huge meeting of the Ku Klux Klan has been scheduled for the night of July 23 at Stone Mountain, Dr. Samuel Green, Grand Dragon of the Klan, disclosed here Tuesday. Wed.

Dr. Green said that more than 1,000 men will be initiated into the Klan in a "naturalization ceremony," and that fully 10,000 robed Klansmen from all parts of Georgia will attend. 6-23-47

The ceremony will be a public one, he said, and open to everybody except the representatives of a nationally circulated magazine, which he named.

Owners of Stone Mountain said, meanwhile, that no such gathering has been authorized on their property, but Dr. Green said the ceremony will not take place on the top of the mountain.

Again the Klan Brings Sorrow

Mon. 3-15-48

In Columbus a man, who for 18 years had held a responsible job, has resigned after having been identified as attending a Ku Klux meeting, out of which came an attack on newspapermen assigned to cover it.

Other men also have been identified and it is likely Federal indictments will be sought against them.

Thus sorrow, unnecessary sorrow, comes to the families and the future of these men.

Why? Atlanta Constitution

There is no good reason. The Ku Klux Klan is a disease. It brings only sorrow and shame to any community which accepts it. It seeks to corrupt the jury system, to debase law, to disgrace the decent people of any community which harbors it. That good, thoughtless men sometimes are led into it, is true. But they are thoughtless. They condemn their own participation as a citizen; they say, by joining, they no longer trust their own police, sheriff or State laws.

The Ku Klux Klan in Georgia and the South has wrapped its arms around the radical Negroes of the North, and said, "Brothers, we will join you in shamming the South." Mon. 3-15-48

Let all communities rise up and bar this cancer in the life of any community.

That is all the Klan is—it exists to enrich its officers and organizers—and the Government soon must find if they return on the income they receive.

It is a disease bringing sorrow and shame.

Know the Ku Klux Klan for what it is—a filthy parasite, living on hate and ignorance.

Jackson Outlaws 'Demonstrations' Without Permits

The Constitution

Atlanta, Ga.

JACKSON, March 22—(AP)—A city ordinance was passed here Monday night outlawing parades and demonstrations without consent of the Mayor and City Council. Tues. 3-23-48

Passage of the ordinance precedes by four days the Butts County Democratic Primary.

Mayor W. M. Redman said the Council had received reports that the Ku Klux Klan planned a demonstration and cross burning here Thursday night before the primary. He said the reports prompted passage of the ordinance, and extra police would be sworn in for 24-hour duty during the primary to enforce the ordinance.

The new law restricts any group of two or more persons from parading or demonstrating without a permit. The penalty or fine for violation is left to the discretion of the Mayor. 3-23-48

Anti-Klan Coach Now Really Fired, Newspaper Reports

Birmingham News

Birmingham, Ala.

RINGGOLD, Ga., March 3—(AP)—The Chattanooga Times today quoted an unidentified member of the Catoosa County Board of Education as saying the board has voted unanimously to dismiss Lakeview High School Coach Walter Bowland.

Bowland will be dismissed because he "has misconducted himself and is unfit for the job," said the source.

Yesterday a board member who refused to give his name said "The board has no statement to make; we will deal directly with Mr. Bowland." Wed. 3-3-48

"Mr. Bowland was told to appear at the board meeting (Tuesday afternoon) if he had anything to say, but he did not appear," said Miss Ruth Williams, county superintendent.

The coach said he had been fired between himself and Marion Hayes, from his job because "I am in opposition to the Ku Klux Klan." He said the fight occurred when Hayes came into the gym and attempted to disrupt basketball practice.

Klan Lays Member Rise to Civil Rights Fight Says It Is Ready for 'Constructive Activity'

The Times New York, N.Y.
Wed. 3-10-48

ATLANTA, March 9 (AP)—The Ku Klux Klan asserts that its membership is increasing because of the civil rights issue raging in and out of Congress and through the South. A newly issued pamphlet states that the Klan is ready for a period of "constructive planning and activity."

On politics, the pamphlet says the difference between the national parties is "tweedledum and tweedledee," then it adds:

"As the matter now stands we must cast our ballots for the right as it is most nearly represented and championed by men, regardless of party."

The pamphlet lists Klan ideals as a white man's organization; an American, Protestant, gentile organization.

It says the order stands for development of the "highest standards" of citizenship; "rightful" use of the ballot, enforcement of law by regularly constituted authorities and teaching citizens that their first allegiance is to the United States."

The Times

On racial ideals, it states that founders of the republic "never intended that it should fall into the hands of an inferior race."

3-11-48

"Every effort to wrest from white race the management of its affairs in order to transfer it to the control of blacks or any other color, or to permit them to share in its control, is an invasion of our sacred constitutional prerogatives. One of the sad facts in American political life is the readiness of so many politicians to sell their noble white birthright for a mess of black pottage."

New York N.Y.

"When it comes to the point that they (Negroes) cannot respect those rights, they must be reminded that this is a white man's country so that they will seek for themselves a country more agreeable to their tastes and aspirations."

Wed.

Klan Starting Terror Campaign In Georgia, Gov. Thompson Says

The News
Birmingham Ala.
Sun. 4-18-48

Flogging Of Young Vet Declared Linked With Beating Of Two Negroes

BY CHARLES BARRETT

ATLANTA, April 17—(AP)—Savage beating of a young war veteran with a leather lash brought charges by Georgia's governor Saturday that the Ku Klux Klan is setting out on a systematic terror campaign.

Gov. M. E. Thompson said the Klan, through a new adjunct called "The Black Raiders," has planned a series of floggings and lashings of private citizens in Atlanta, LaGrange and "other places."

He ordered the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and police officers throughout the state on a special alert.

4-18-48

Solicitor General Paul Webb, meanwhile, said he already had linked the Atlanta flogging with the brutal whipping of a Negro man and woman in LaGrange several weeks ago. He did not elaborate on the connection but said the Atlanta incident had many "ramifications."

Webb said Troup County officers told him the only reason for the floggings of Limon and Mary Gates was that Gates "was a little too active in a Negro church."

* * *

JOE BERRY, 23-year-old unemployed construction worker, was found bent against a tree here Thursday night, partially disrobed, bleeding from a mass of welts across the back. Nearby, officers found cards bearing the words "Black Raiders," a black mask, a pistol and a two-foot heavy leather strap.

The News

Five men have been arrested and charged with assault with intent to murder. Police Chief Neal Ellis said 58-year-old Sherman Keheley, a power company lineman, told officers that he and two other accused men were members of the Klan.

Birmingham, Ala

Ellis quoted Keheley as charging Berry had been drinking and causing trouble with Mrs. Berry.

Dr. Samuel Green, grand dragon of the Georgia Klan, denied any connection with "The Black Raiders." The hooded order leader conferred with Solicitor Webb Saturday.

Sun.

The fifth arrest in the Atlanta flogging was made Saturday. Webb identified the accused as Lawrence Fortner, a steel company employe. He said Fortner escaped from bloodhounds the night of the beating.

4-18-48

He identified the others arrested Thursday night, as Keheley, R. B. Ellison, 35; E. W. Mitchell, 37, and M. S. Comboia. They were released on $5,000 bond each after being indicted by a Fulton County Grand Jury.

KLAN BARS NEWSMEN

The Times
New York N.Y.

Sentinels Posted at Augusta, Ga., Induction Ceremonies

AUGUSTA, Ga., April 14 (AP)—The Ku Klux Klan initiated 125 new candidates at the city park at a secret meeting last night.

Thurs

Newsmen were barred from a building in which the robed and hooded order installed new members. Dr. Samuel Green, Georgia Grand Dragon, addressed the meeting but declined afterward to tell reporters what he talked about.

Setninels in robes and hoods stood guard during the initiation and at a barbecue preceding it.

Green said they were there to "keep curiosity seekers from getting too close." He added that the Klan had no part in five recent cross burnings here.

4-15-48

Fortner Gets Year's Term

The Constitution

Convicted of participating in the flogging of Joe Berry, Lawrence Fortner, steel worker, Friday was sentenced by Judge Bond Almand, of Fulton Superior Court, to serve a year in prison.

Sat.

His lawyer, Francis Fife, immediately filed a motion for a new trial and Fortner posted a $1,000 appeal bond.

Atlanta, Ga

Two others have been sentenced to prison for the flogging of Berry, and a third suspect took his own life. A fourth man alleged to have been a member of the flogging party was tried, but the jury was unable to agree on a verdict.

Sol. Gen. Paul Webb and Asst. Sol. Carl Copeland prosecuted Fortner.

6-12-48

Sun 3-14-48

Associated Press Wirephoto.

"KLANHANDLED" . . . Joe Talbot, left, Jim Bellows, and Carlton Johnson, newsmen of The Columbus (Ga.) Ledger leave a physician's office after charging they were manhandled by the Ku Klux Klan. Bellows, sporting a bruised cheek, examines Talbot's bruised hand.

Three Georgia Newsmen Accuse Klan Of Drugging, Manhandling Them

The Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky.
Sun. 3-14-48

Claim Is Denied By Grand Dragon

By the Associated Press.

Columbus, Ga., March 13.—A newspaper publisher charged today—and the head of the Georgia Ku Klux Klan promptly denied—that three newsmen were manhandled and drugged last night at the scene of a Klan cross-burning.

President A. H. Chapman of The Columbus Ledger-Enquirer Company said the three—reporters Jim Bellows and Carlton Johnson and photographer Joe Talbot—were attacked while covering a Klan gathering at Shiloh, 40 miles from here.

Dr. Samuel Green of Atlanta, Grand Dragon of the Georgia Klan, said he was at the meeting at the Klan clubhouse atop Pine Mountain but knew nothing about "anybody being roughed up." He said he did not know any newsmen were at the scene and that no unvouched for persons entered the hall.

Sun. 3-14-48

At Manchester, about 30 miles from Columbus, Police Chief E. T. Keevie said the three were arrested on the outskirts of the town by policemen while seated in their car. They were jailed on a charge of being drunk and were released this morning after posting bonds of $8.75 each.

Bryan Collier, editor of The Ledger, characterized the whole business as a "deliberate plant" and said in a front-page editorial that the papers accepted the Klan challenge."

The newsmen had followed aby Dr. Samuel R. Green. The Attorney General was further... in Chapman's telegram to the clubhouse, whichther asked, in determine if there "has been a violation of federal statutes

back page, this section.

Collier said the newsmen gave this account of their experience: At no time did they attempt to conceal their identity or presence at the gathering. While the cross was being burned, Talbot said they were made several pictures, one showed to drink a pint of ing Dr. Green, who wore a green robe with hood without a mask.

to Drink Whisky;

'Forced to Drink Whisky,'

Column 3,

The three men were handled . . . and given injections of what appears to be narcotics by a gathering of members of the Ku Klux Klan headed in person each forced to drink a pint of whisky, and then if they didn't do so it would be poured down their throats.

Talbot said he twice was given injections in the leg and that Johnson was given a shot in the arm. Bellows passed out shortly after being given the whisky.

Collier said the newsmen gave this account of their experience: At no time did they attempt to conceal their identity or presence at the gathering. While the cross was being burned, Talbot said they were made several pictures, one showed to drink a pint of ing Dr. Green, who wore a green robe with hood without a mask.

After the newsmen were seized, Talbot's camera was taken and the plates smashed. The camera was not returned.

The trio was then taken, with Bellows "passed out," to the newsmen's car. Talbot was placed in the front seat and a Klansman, using another camera, made a picture of him. Bellows and Johnson were placed in the back seat in a "compromising position," while the Klansman made other pictures. Louisville, Ky

Two Klansmen got in the car and started toward Manchester. Just inside the city limits of Manchester the Klansmen got out. The driver placed the ignition key in the lock and took a handkerchief and wiped the dashboard, steering wheel and other surfaces.

Within a minute or so after the Klansmen left, two Manchester policemen appeared and arrested the trio. Sun. 3-14-48

Thompson to Order Probe

Washington, March 13 (U.P.)—Governor M. E. Thompson tonight said he will "ask the Georgia Bureau of Investigation to investigate thoroughly" the reported manhandling of two Columbus, Ga., newspaper reporters and a photographer at a Ku Klux Klan rally last night.

FLOGGER GETS 3 YEARS IN GEORGIA WHIPPINGS

The Journal New Yorker, N. Y.

ATLANTA, May 11 (AP)—R. B. Ellison, named as one of the ringleaders in the recent "black raider" floggings, today pleaded guilty to participating in two trrorist whippings and received a sentence of three years.

Ellison, charged with assault with intent to murder Roy C. Berry on April 15 and Roy Gravitt on March 31, was allowed to plead guilty to the lesser charge of assault and battery. Judge Bond Almand gave him the maximum sentence under the law.

In both instances Ellison defended the actions on the Klan-linked floggers as "attempts to do good." He made no apology to the judge, but asked leniency in both instances "to show the women and children in this state that someone is interested in their welfare."

Ellison accused both flogging victims of failing to support their families. He said Berry was not working and that his wife had been forced to sell furniture and live with a brother-in-law, M. S. Camboia, also under indictment.

Referring to Gravitt, Ellison said: Wed 5-12-48

"He expected trouble. He had gone down to the police station and paid a drunken woman's fine with his wife's money. In his case, the same as in the Berry case, we were trying to do good."

Inside The K. K. K.

The News

MINUTES OF THE KU KLUX KLAN—Klavern No. 1, Atlanta, April 12—Klansman Autry, co-owner of the Autry-Loundes Funeral Home, launched vigorous attack on Drew Pearson for announcing that the Klan would burn a cross at Augusta. All Klansmen were urged to catch Pearson's spy.

"I will be glad to bury the rat free of charge, courtesy of the Autry-Loundes Funeral Home," offered Autry. Mon.

Grand Dragon Green bemoaned the fact that for the second successive week there were no applications for reinstatement or new membership in Klavern No. 1, despite the fact that he had just launched a membership drive. 4-19-48

"This is a hell of a way to start a membership drive," complained the grand dragon. He said he felt safe in announcing the details of the Augusta cross-burning since it was now Monday and too late for Pearson to get it on his Sunday broadcast. He proceeded to give out detailed instructions for Klansmen to meet on the road outside of Augusta. Birmingham, Ala.

Cross Burned At Macon

The Constitution

Constitution State News Service.

MACON, June 16—A small cross was burned late tonight in the front yard of a house owned by Dr. Dewitt D. Walton, one of the South's most prominent Negro dentists.

The cross, measuring six feet high and five feet across, was extinguished by the Macon Fire Department.

Police who investigated the burning said nine small stickers, bearing the letters "KKK" and a picture of a white-robed rider on a horse, were pasted on the front door glass of the house at 215 College St., near Wesleyan Conservatory. Atlanta, Ga.

Discounting the theory it may have been the work of pranksters, police said definitely it was the work of a "large organization." Thurs 6-17-48

The house, until June 1, occupied by a white family, is slated to be rerented to a Negro family, according to reports here, police said.

Pleads Guilty On 'Raider Beating Count

The Atlanta Constitution Atlanta Ga.

An accused "Black Raider" pleaded guilty Wednesday to assault and battery in the flogging last April 16 of Joe Berry. Thurs 6-3-48

E. W. Mitchell, DeKalb farmer, one of seven persons arrested in connection with alleged Ku Klux Klan connected "Black Raider" floggings, entered the plea of guilty before Judge Bond Almand in Fulton Superior Court.

So Mitchell would not lose his crops, Defense Attorney Young Frazier asked sentence be deferred until the farmer had passed "laying by time." Judge Almand set sentence for Sept. 3.

Trial of three others charged with the brutal beating of Berry was postponed until June 9 because of the illness of their attorney, Francis Fife.

125 Initiated Into Klan at Augusta Rites

The Constitution Atlanta, Ga.

AUGUSTA, April 13—(AP)—Ku Klux Klansmen, led by their Grand Dragon, Dr. Samuel Green, of Atlanta, donned their robes and hoods Tuesday night to initiate 125 new candidates at Julian Smith Casino, the City Park. Wed

Sentinels in full regalia stood guard while Green and a special initiating team inducted the new members inside a park building.

Green said the sentinels were on duty to "keep curiosity-seekers from getting too close."

Earlier, the Klansmen held a barbecue in another Casino building. The sentinels stood outside there also. 4-14-48

The Dragon said five cross burnings here in the last few weeks were not the work of his order. He said he issued all permits for such demonstration and none was issued for Augusta.

'Destitute Home Folks' If Klan Remains--Webb

The Constitution Atlanta, Ga. Tues. 4-20-48

If Dr. Samuel Green, Grand Dragon of the Ku Klux Klan, does not disband his organization in the face of the terrorist activities of the "Black Raiders," he will be "responsible for many women and children going without food and shelter," Sol. Gen. Paul Webb warned Monday night.

"Dr. Green says the Klan has nothing to do with the Black Raiders, and I'm not calling him a liar," Webb said, "but I do say to him, if he will disband the Klan, there will be no more floggings such as these.

"And if he does not disband the Klan in the face of these facts, he will be responsible for many women and children going without food and shelter, for we propose to prosecute to the fullest extent of the law all perpetrators of these dastardly outrages," the Solicitor General said.

The Solicitor General said four of the six men arrested in connection with the flogging of Joe Berry, young war veteran, Thursday night admitted membership in both Black Raiders and the Klan. Of the other two, one, Berry's brother-in-law, is foreign-born and therefore not eligible, and the other denied membership in both organizations. Tues.

Two more indictments in the Berry flogging are expected from the Fulton County Grand Jury today. Webb said "Black Raider" members had been "definitely connected" with the brutal beating of two Troupe County Negroes several weeks ago. He declined to amplify the Troupe County connection, but residents from that area spent a long time in his office Monday afternoon. 4-21-48

The Burner of Crosses Is Never to Be Feared

The Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky.

THE mystery of the fiery cross on Breckinridge Lane is solved, police say, in a schoolboy's confession. In one sense, however, it never was much of a mystery. Thurs

For except as to details, which vary with circumstances and settings, all such happenings come of immaturity. They come of a sense that rushes in, as it were, to fill a vacuum caused by lack of mental balance and of seasoned decency. Whether they are done in the half-exuberant, half-wayward manner of boys, or with all the masquerading mumbo jumbo of the Ku Klux Klan, they come of the same desperately driven instinct that impels a fellow to write a filthy word on a wall and to smirk at his companion in the furtive offense. 4-22-48

According to the reported confession, the boys who proposed to build homes near St. Matthews. So they burned a cross in warning. They doubtless had a pretty good idea that it would cause a bit of sensation—probably more, in their minds, than it actually did cause. The secrecy which they intended to guard would make the exploit all the more to be cherished. In the same way you may imagine the K.K.K. taking delight not so much in a deed as in the cloak of mystery they throw around the deed. They do it for their own fun, and other considerations are incidental.

The point is that you need never fear a cross-

unmasked he is apt to be thor- himself. Even when he is de- Klansmen's Grand Dragon al- hen he is found out, this is to ven from himself, a rankling and inadequacy. He wants cover up, perhaps even t know what, and he hasn't something, he doesn't kn found any other way of g of getting it.

200 Klansmen Burn Cross, Parade In Swainsboro: 100 Spectators

Thurs 2-5-48 The Constitution Atlanta, Ga.

SWAINSBORO, Feb. 4—A meeting of about 200 members of the Ku Klux Klan from Eastern Georgia and South Carolina, featuring a parade and burning of a fiery cross, was held here Tuesday night to the surprise of the local population. In spite of announcements by Drew Pearson and several Georgia newspapers, the planned meeting had only about 100 spectators.

Local Klansmen were not in evidence at the baseball park where the first pow-wow was held, during the time they were putting on their uniforms on the square or in the parade. Cars came from all over this section of the State. The drivers were strangers as was evidenced by the license plates and their inability to find the very popular baseball park.

The leaders who introduced themselves to reporters as "Mr. Mims and Mr. Sweeney" were from another county, they said, and co-operated with newsmen in posing for pictures in their uniforms and getting other members to follow suit. The Constitution

The meeting was orderly and consisted of a single file parade through a two-block white residential area and back to the business section where the marchers grouped on the courthouse lawn and sang America Atlanta, Ga.

The spokesmen then addressed the crowd and stated that the purpose of the organization was the protection of white womanhood. "We stand 100 percent behind the American flag," he said, "and rededicate ourselves to Americanism. We are against all other isms. We are not against any race, creed or color, but are for separation of the races. You cannot mix any-

Constitution State News Service.

thing except liquor," he said, "and find it as good as it was."

Klansmen were told to go seven miles out Route 80 to the bar-b-que and that admission would only be by card that would be double checked.

Mayor Ralph Smith, of Swainsboro, had previously issued orders to city policemen not to interfere unless there was violence, but to uphold the law if there were any illegal acts. Times 2-5-48

"The Klan was not invited," he said, "and I am convinced that they were not local people—just strangers who found this centrally located city as convenient a meeting place as other groups had found" Atlanta, Ga.

He pointed out that the Southeastern division of the Red Cross was holding its meeting here Wednesday and that similar groups frequently met here. Constitution

Editor Milton Beckerman, of the Swainsboro Forest-Blade, interviewed civic leaders who stated that it was unfortunate that this community had been picked for such nation-wide notoriety and that in their opinion the local Klan was a small group of citizens not influential in local or county affairs. Times 2-5-48

Columnist With An Ax

By Walter Winchell

Cowardly Klansmen

The News

FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS of Feb. 4, Swainsboro, Ga.: "As the cross burned, hooded Klansmen cried out: 'Where's Drew Pearson? Where's Walter Winchell?' Both nationally syndicated columnists have been exposing information on the Klan."

* * *

IT IS NOT NEWS THAT the white-hooded white trash of Lakeview, Ga., have threatened to tar and feather a high school principal and a high school coach. It is still not news that with typical chivalry they waited for a night when Coach Bowland was absent and only his pregnant wife was home.

Times 2-15-48

* * *

BUT IT IS BIG NEWS when a Georgia sheriff tells a newspaper he is too afraid of the Ku Klux Klan to enforce the law. The governor of Georgia is now on public notice that a Georgia sheriff is too much of a coward to perform his duties. Further—the governor of Georgia is on notice that if the threatened attempt is made to tar and feather these men, they will shoot to kill. They are within their rights. You don't have to be a sheriff to stop a felony. You just have to be a man.

2-15-48

* * *

THIS CASE IS NO LONGER in the front yard of high school Coach Bowland. It is on the steps of the executive mansion at Atlanta and the White House at Washington, D. C. Attorney General Clark: Is United States citizen Bowland getting the equal protection of the laws guaranteed by Amendment 14, Section 1 of the Constitution? Does raising a family and earning a living require a license by the Ku Klux Klan, Mr. Clark? And what about Title 18, Section 51 of the United States Criminal Code? Under that law to threaten or intimidate any American citizen in his constitutional rights is a federal crime, and you, Mr. Clark, are sworn to prosecute. Why did the Democratic Administration go through the contemptible hypocrisy of asking for a civil rights bill last week by special presidential message when it doesn't dare enforce the laws already there?

The News

* * *

MRS. BOWLAND STANDING for her rights while a sheriff cowers again proves there is more integrity in the average American's front yard than in 10 square blocks of Capitol Hill. Mrs. Bowland may have thought she was stamping out a burning cross but she was really raising the American Flag from the Georgia mud where a white livered sheriff had dropped it from his shaking yellow hands. Birmingham, Ala.

HOODED MEN THREATEN SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

The Record Columbia, S. C. Fri. 2-6-48

JOHN B. BURKS (left), principal of the high school at Lakeview, Ga., and Walter Bowland, the school's athletic coach, view the remnants of a fiery cross burned in front of Bowland's home by a band of hooded men after he had received a threat to get out of town or be tarred and feathered. Bowland's pregnant wife (right) kicked over the fiery cross and called the masked riders "yellow cowards." The threat followed a fight Bowland had with a student. Burks also was threatened with tar and feathers unless he got Bowland out of Lakeview. Both men say they are ready to "shoot it out" with the Ku Klux Klan. (AP Photos) The Record Columbia, S. C. Feb. 2-6-48

GRAND DRAGON GREEN came back to Atlanta the other day very irate to find that during a two-weeks' absence some of his Klansmen had kicked over the traces against Herman Talmadge.

So, resuming his role of Grand Cyclops of Klavern No. 1, Green gave the Klansmen a long pep talk. Here are the minutes of what he said:

Dr. Green was also sore because so few were present at the meeting and because only seven were initiated. However, he seemed even sorer because secrets were leaking out of Klan meetings. So he started off by blasting Drew Pearson for reporting that Herman Talmadge was not for the workingman. Green said that he had talked with Herman, and that Herman was going to back up labor strong. Evansville, Ky.

"Since Drew Pearson came out and said there was a big row in the Klan about supporting Talmadge," proclaimed the Grand Dragon, "it proves that we still have a rat present who is telling about every move we make. I want all Klansmen present to try to find this stool pigeon. If you have any suspicions, come and tell me. I am going to find that dirty rat if it's the last thing I do."

Dr. Green also said he thought the reason no more people were joining the Klan was because Pearson had scared them. Wed. 2-4-48

The Grand Dragon reminded the Klansmen that the hearing on the Negro policemen is coming up before Bond Almond, a former Klansman. The date, he said, was not announced, but Green was sure a decision would be handed down that would suit the K.K.K.

The Klansmen were invited to participate in the Swainsboro parade which the Grand Dragon said means much to the Klan because it seems there has been some trouble with the Negroes and this will put them in their place.

Several Klansmen wanted to know why the Klan was not more active in Atlanta. They wanted to see some activities similar to the old days. Dr. Green promised that as soon as possible he would see that they got plenty of action.

"The year 1948 is going to be a hot year for the Ku Klux Klan," he said. "There will be a lot of parades and cross-burnings."

He also said the Klan had been busy in many ways that it had not told its members about, since he had been afraid to talk too much about Klan activities because Drew Pearson or someone might announce it before it could even take place. The Constitution Atlanta, Ga.

Meanwhile a new Klavern is being established in Chattanooga, Tenn., with membership of 289 Klansmen.

Copyright.

Anti-Southern Tactics

The Record

Sensible Southerners will applaud the denunciation of the imitation Ku Klux Klan by Governor M. E. Thompson, chief executive of the state in which the kluxers originated and in which most, but not all of the recent klan activity has been taking place. Columbia, S.C.

"Never before," Governor Thompson said, "has the Ku Klux Klan and the klan type of mind been revealed so dramatically as anti-Southern and as actually giving aid to the Communists, the race baiters and the radical organizations which are pushing the legislation we declare unwise and unnecessary . . . While our Senators and Congressmen in Washington tell the world that we have enough laws and that we will enforce them without federal coercion, the Ku Klux Klan by meetings such as that recently held at Wrightsville cut the ground from beneath their feet . . . The klan, and others who use their methods, practically nullify the work of decent people in the South and deliver us into the hands of our enemies." Wed. 2-18-48

And Governor Thompson is right. The Klux Klux Klan and the Ku Klux mentality will not solve the South's problems, will not even help solve them, but will hurt. Every time the klan parades in Georgia or South Carolina, Alabama or Mississippi, Florida or Louisiana, attempting to resort to intimidation of Negroes or simply for the purpose of self advertising—and the klan wants members—it loses the South the respect and the votes of Northern or Western congressmen at the very time that the South needs votes and needs them desperately.

It is important that the South keep in mind the fact, too often obscured by all the political hullabaloo, that the civil rights issue will be settled in Congress and before the election, not in the election itself. The civil rights bills will be either passed or killed before the Congress adjourns this year. The Record

And the South has a fighting chance to win at least a part of its battle, maybe the most important part. But it cannot hope to win if the Souhern Senators and Representatives are not backed up in their claims that the South can it can be handled by federal law.

Columbia, S.C. Wed. 2-18-48

Klansman Night Riders Take To Automobiles

The Constitution

ATLANTA — (UP) — Ku Klux Klan Knights, once known for their swift horses with the blazing eyes, now ride in automobiles on their cross-burning expeditions.

The new mode of transportation has the approval of Grand Dragon Samuel Green, of Atlanta.

The night riders usually make their trips en masse, although the Klan charter has been revoked. A motorcade of 50 to 70 cars loaded with robed Klansmen has been observed frequently in recent weeks winding along Georgia roads in the night. The caravan of Klan cars is led by an automobile bearing a large American flag and a red cross. Atlanta, Ga

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

By Drew Pearson

Ransom tried to straighten things out. He made a speech pointing out that Klansmen should think of their wives and children and the color problem, and therefore all vote for Talmadge. This, however, failed to heal the breach. Times-Herald

"What do you think Brother Wingate was thinking about but his wife and children when he opposed Talmadge?" shouted one Klansman from the floor.

Judging from the murmurs of approval, the anti-Talmadge Klansmen were just as strong as the Talmadge supporters. Wed.

Grand Dragon Green has now returned to Atlanta and held a meeting early last week to try to heal the breach. 1-24-48

THE split inside the Ku Klux Klan over the Klan campaign to elect Herman Talmadge as Governor of Georgia is one of the most significant developments in Klan history. Grand Dragon Green is not at all happy about it—especially since it happened while he was absent from the last two Klan meetings. Here is the inside story. Tribune-Journal

At the first January meeting of Klavern No. 1, Atlanta, Dr. Richard Eubank, acting Cyclops in Dr. Green's place, made a speech urging unanimous Klan support for Herman Talmadge. Eubank said it was the duty of every Klansman to get behind Talmadge and make certain he is elected. Louisville, Ky.

This brought a vigorous, unexpected protest from Klansman Wingate, employed by the Bell U-Drive-It Company, who said: Wed. 1-28-48

"I'll be damned if I'll support Talmadge."

He reminded fellow Klansmen that the late Gov. Eugene Talmadge, father of Herman, had broken up labor unions and set up labor concentration camps. He also recalled that the late Governor had proclaimed that $1 a day is good enough pay for any man in overalls.

"You yourself told us," Klansman Wingate reminded the Exalted Cyclops, "that Herman will do everything his old man did. I'm not going to vote for him."

Wingate's statement brought considerable support from rank-and-file Klansmen. However, the split went over until the next meeting, when Grand Titian

Klansmen Mobilize To Elect Talmadge

Daily Worker Fri. 1-16-48

New York, N.Y.

By Stetson Kennedy

ATLANTA (FP).—"The No. 1 job of all Georgia Klansmen is to work for the election of Herman Talmadge as governor in '48!" Grand Dragon Samuel Green roared at his Kluxers in Klonklave assembled at Klavern No. 1 on Jan. 5. 1-16-48 Fri.

Asserting that Talmadge is the "only guarantee" for preservation of "white supremacy and southern womanhood," the Dragon ordered his hooded hoodlums to appoint block captains and conduct a house-to house canvass to promote Talmadge's candidacy.

"With the support of our faithful Klanspeople, Talmadge's election is assured," said the Dragon. "This year we will elect a governor who won't mistreat us as Ellis Arnall did."

(While governor, Arnall, acting upon evidence I uncovered as an agent of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, instituted court proceedings which succeeded in revoking the KKK's national corporate charter.)

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GRAND DRAGON GREEN went on to say that should acting governor M. E. Thompson shape up as a dangerous opposition candidate, the Klan would inject a third candidate into the race, on a somewhat liberal platform, to split the anti-Talmadge vote. Daily Worker 1-16-48

In making an official report on the progress of Ku Kluxery in 1947, the Dragon asserted that 40 new Klaverns were set up in Georgia during the year. He said he was very well satisfied with this growth, "considering the repeated attacks made on the Klan by Stetson Kennedy, Ellis Arnall and Drew Pearson." Fri. 1-16-48

Green promised that more than twice as many new Klaverns would be established during 1948 but cautioned that the KKK will have to "watch its step" until the secret agent inside the Klan is caught and until the Klan can "put some men like Talmadge in office who will give us protection."

(The Klan had an elaborate expansion program mapped out, to go into effect when Eugene Talmadge took office in January 1946. When Ole Gene died they tabled the program, pending election of his son, Herman. The program calls for a further increase in masked parades, cross burnings, intimidation, terrorism and floggings.)

Daily Worker

TONIGHT was election night at Klavern No. 1 for the coming year. All incumbent officials of the KKK hierarchy were reelected without opposition. Sam Green reigns supreme as Exalted Cyclops of the Klavern, Grand Dragon of the Georgia Realm and self appointed Imperial Wizard of the entire Invisible Empire. New York, N.Y.

A new Nighthawk named Flowers was installed, with the Dragon commenting that the secret agents of Kennedy, Pearson et al would have a hard time getting by him. Green said he could not understand how the undercover operator has the nerve to carry on, since he has promised the Kluxers a free hand when they catch the "spy" 1-16-48

Cliff Vittur was reelected Chief of the Klan's Kavalier whipping squad In the past some effort has been made to conceal the fact that the Kavalier Klub is a branch of the KKK but Vittur's election openly established the connection.

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ACCORDING to the Klan's Kloran (constitution), the Kavaliers constitute the "Military Dept." Members are carefully selected for ruthlessness and loyalty to the Klan. Grand Dragon Green carries Kavalier Kard No. 00. Fri.

Grand Titan G. T. Brown, Atlanta sales manager for the Texaco Oil Co. and one of the four Titans of the Realm, strongly urged Atlanta Klansmen to pack the Fulton county court Jan. 7 to try to influence the judge and jury scheduled to hear the Klan-backed suit seeking to prevent the city from hiring Negro policemen.

KLAN KARD of membership in the Cavalier Club, whipping squad of the Ku Klux Klan, was obtained by Federated Press columnist Stetson Kennedy. Symbols on the card are part of the KKK hocus-pocus.

Commissioners, Judges, Plaintiffs--All Klansmen

Daily Worker 3 New York, N.Y. Tues 1-6-48

By Stetson Kennedy By Federated Press

The Ku Klux Klan is back of the continuing fight to prevent the hiring of Negro police in Atlanta, I can reveal after intensive inside investigation. Virtually everyone publicly involved in the question appears to be a member of the Klan—the entire five-man police commission, the judges who have conducted the hearings, the delegations and petitioners who have registered protests, and now the man and his attorney who are sueing the city in an effort to restrain it from hiring Negro policemen.

The question was first brought to a head nearly two years ago, when Atlanta Negroes marched on the city hall to demand that some Negroes be put on the police force. Ever since then the KKK has been Kluxers, the commission's action must be interpreted as an index of the potency of Atlanta's newly-registered Negro voters. Tues 1-6-48

Evidently the Klan is not satisfied with the compromise of hiring Negro police with restricted powers. G. Herbert Yarn, who spoke at great length against the hiring of Negroes at the meeting of Atlanta Klan Klavern No. 1 on Nov. 24, has now filed suit seeking to restrain the action on the facetious ground that it would "deny white people equal protection of the law." Daily Worker

Kluxer Yarn's suit is being handled by Vester M. Ownby, longtime Exalted Cyclops of Atlanta's Riverdale Klavern No. 207. When the anti-Semitic, anti-Negro Columbians poped up, Owenby served as their atorney and chief spokesman. He was isued Columbian card No. 8. Tues 1-6-48

★

THE POLICE COMMISSION'S decision to hire a few Negroes on a restricted basis came on Dec. 1 after a series of hectic hearings packed by delegations bearing petitions from Atlanta's seven Klan Klaverns.

"Atlanta has always been a white fighting back.

After numerous stormy public hearings packed by Klansmen, the police commission voted recently to authorize the employment of a few Negro police, with the proviso that they work from Jimcrow stations in Negro neighborhoods, with no power to arrest whites. Tues 1-6-48

★

IN VIEW OF Imperial Wizard Samuel Green's claim, made as far back as Feb. 25, 1946, that all members of the police commission are man's city, and will remain so!" Wizard Green declared at the meeting of his Klavern on Nov. 17. He urged all Kluxers to assure the police commissioners that they would "back them up" if they would flatly refuse to employ Negroes.

Some Klan officials have been even more outspoken. Exalted Cyclops Sam Roper told his Klavern No. 297 on Feb. 2 of last year that if Negro police were hired he could blackmail certain Negroes to "kill every damned one of them."

HOODED KLANSMEN gather around a fiery cross on the lawn of the Emanuel County Courthouse at Swainsboro, Ga., after marching in single file around town square and through the residential section. It was the first time KKK demonstrated in this farming community since the '20s. Gov. Thompson refused to outlaw the demonstration. New York, N.Y. Thurs 1-5-48

The KKK Still Seeks Suckers

The Constitution

Despite all the headlines and drumbeating in advance, the Ku Klux Klan meeting at Swainsboro seems to have been pretty much of a flop.

Approximately 200 klansmen paraded, many of them a little bit ashamed of it. But, most of them were visitors and not more than a dozen were natives, according to estimates by responsible persons.

Now, comes the Klan in another, and more typical picture: The big, brave boys are threatening a couple of schoolteachers in North Georgia.

They waited until one teacher was away and burned a cross in front of his home while his wife—soon to have a baby—was alone. The Klan likes to be brave that way. She came out and kicked th cross over. Tues 1-6-48

They threatened to tar and feather the school athletic coach because he did something to a visitor—presumably with KKK friends. He reportedly says he hit the visitor in the nose for interfering or trying to interfere in his business.

This is a typical picture of the Klan—operating in the night against helpless women and lone persons. Why, any 10 or 15 of them are ready at any time to disguise themselves and attack one other person—especially if they can slip up on him. The Constitution

We assume the Truman civil rights recommendations will enable the Klan to get a few suckers in the fold—at $10 a head. Atlanta, Ga. Tues 1-6-48

May we remind thoughtful persons that the Klan left a record of murder, corruption and crime in the twenties. It can eventually bring nothing but sorrow and disgrace to a community.

Our advice to prospective klansmen is to save their money. There is no use in paying grocery bills for Klan organizers. Let them get a job and go to work.

Dragon Denies Klan Threatened Schoolmen

The Constitution Atlanta, Ga.

Tues 1-6-48

A flat denial that the Ku Klux Klan as an organization threatened a Lakeview High School principal and an athletic coach came Thursday from Dr. Samuel Green, Grand Dragon of the Ku Klux Klan.

Openly defying telephoneered unless they left town, Prin- threats of being tarred and feath- cipal John B. Burks and Coach Walter Bowland continued at their duties with a promise that they would shoot anyone coming to their homes and threatening them.

Hooded men burned a cross in front of Coach Bowland's home on Jan. 16 after he had a fight with Marion Hayes, a University of Chattanooga student. Bowland's wife, at home alone and pregnant, knocked over the burning cross and called the masked men cowards.

The fight took place in the high school gymnasium where the basketball team was practicing. The coach refused to let a member of the squad leave practice. Bowland said that he hit Hayes when the latter intervened and cursed him. Hayes' father withdrew a warrant he had issued for Bowland's arrest and both sides agreed to forget the matter at a School Board meeting.

Dr. Green said that Klan members had informed him that the demonstration was staged by non-members masquerading as Klansmen. He pointed out that it was against Klan law to demonstrate in regalia and said that no such permission had been granted.

"If I found any Klansmen involved," the leader announced, "they would be banished immediately from membership."

Although he conducted one in- gation soon after the demon- tion was reported, Dr. Green that he has called for another e to be conducted from Klan dquarters at Chattanooga, owland and Burks said they ld leave Lakeview when the ent school term ends but ld not be intimidated into leav- before then.

The Chattanooga Times quoted posa County Sheriff Jim More- as telling Bowland "I am just cared of the Ku Klux Klan as are. You should conduct your- in such a way that the Klan wouldn't appear in front of your house."

Klan Burns Cross at Swainsboro

The Constitution Atlanta, Ga. Wed 2-4-48

By ED FAIN

SWAINSBORO, Feb. 3—(AP)—Hooded Ku Klux Klansmen burned a fiery cross on the lawn of the Maxwell County Courthouse Tuesday night after marching in single file procession around the town squareand through the residential section.

Mayor Ralph Smith, Sr., said it wasthe first time the Klan had demonstrated in this Southeast Georgia farming and lumbering community since the heyday of the invisible empire in the 20s.

By actual count there were 189 white-robed and masked Klansmen in single file line march. Four others prepared the cross for burning and several stood about to direct the march.

As the march ended on the courthouse lawn, a hooded leader cried "All right fellows, all together now." The Constitution

Then the Klansmen sounded into the tune "America." On the last note of "let freedom ring," their leader said: Atlanta, Ga.

"May we rededicate our lives to the protection of white womanhood!" Wed 2-4-48

Then a torch was put to the 10-foot cross.

As th ecross burned hooded Klansmen cried out, "Where's Drew Pearson! Where's Walter Walter Winchell!"

Pearson and Winchell, both nationally syndicated columnists, have been exposing information on the Klan. Wed 2-4-48

Then from another Klansman came the cry "Mister Wizard, what I want to know is where they got that information from."

A crowd composed principally of women and children stood solemnly by as Klansmen went through their brief ceremony.

As the cross burned out the hooded Klan leader again spoke out. "We do not have any race, colored or creed," he said. 2-4-48

He added that the klan had gathered to rededicate itself to maintenance of the Southern tradition of the races.

"We intend to carry these traditions out and maintain segregation of the races," he said.

Prior to the parade, Klansmen gathered at the city ball park at the edge of town. There a leader said that the men in sheets who were to parade represented only about one-fifth of the men here for the gathering. Others, he said had been unable to obtain their sheets. He said that the Klansmen represented membership from throughout this area. Wed

As the hooded Klansmen passed by the courthouse, 16 men who wore no sheets, joined the tail end of the line. As the Klansmen filed by, small groups of citizens gathered on the sidewalks to watch. Some were silent, others laughed. Several hailed hooded Klansmen in the line by name. The Klansmen waved when they were recognized. 2-4-48

After the ceremony on the courthouse lawn the Klan leader announced that all would proceed to a barbecue with admittance by card only. The Constitution

The Klan has recently constructed a clubhouse on the edge of Swainsboro Atlanta, Ga.

Rhetorical Question

Hooded and sheeted night riders of the Ku Klux Klan—the imitation, not the real Ku Klux Klan—only 189 strong met at Swainsboro, Ga., the other night to "rededicate" themselves "to the protection of white womanhood" and the "segregation of the races." The Record Fri 2-21-48

This is a gratuitous insult to the white womanhood of the South and on their behalf The Record would repudiate it, if spokesmen for the women of the South long since had not told these besheeted adolescents their "protection" was as unwanted as it would be futile. Columbia, S.C.

How much protection would 189 men, not brave enough even to show their faces, supply?

It is a rhetorical question. It answers itself.

ON EVE OF COUNTY PRIMARY

Klan Parades at Wrightsville, Hears Fiery Talk by Dragon

The Constitution Atlanta, Ga. Wed 3-3-48

By PERRY MULLEN

WRIGHTSVILLE, March 2—(AP) Some 300 hooded and robed Klansmen paraded through Wrightsville Tuesday night and heard their leader declare blood would flow in the streets of the South if the Negro takes a place at the side of white men through force of Federal bayonets.

The Klansmen burned a 15-foot high cross on the courthouse lawn after parading around the square. They formed in a circle around the cross and listened to Dr. Samuel Green, Georgia Grand Dragon, criticize President Truman's civil rights program with these words:

"We reaffirm our loyalty to the Constitution, our vow to uphold the laws but there are some things beyond the law.

"The Klan will not permit the people of this country to become a mongrel race.

"There are people in this country who would deny you your very lives in order to get the Negro vote.

"I call on you to write to your Representatives to protect your rights. The Constitution

"President Truman is facing certain defeat unless he retracts some of his statements. Atlanta, Ga.

"If he wants to take the Negro as his equal that's his business."

Green, dressed in green regalia and the only unhooded man in the group, told his followers that the country was founded by white men. "Those who don't want it to be a white man's country should move to another country." 3-3-48

Several women were among the group of hooded and robed figures. Their high-heel shoes clicked smartly on the pavement in contrast to the quiet tread of rubber-heeled men.

Green told the crowd "we want to see the Negro treated fairly, but whenever the Negro takes a place at the side of white men through force of Federal bayonets, blood will flow in streets of the South." The Constitution

The Klan demonstration came on the eve of a County Democratic primary for nomination of 10 county officers. Some 400 Negroes have registered to vote in the County. The County has a population of 14,500, including about 4,500 Negroes. Atlanta, Ga.

There were several Negroes on the street early in the afternoon. By dusk, all had disappeared and none showed up at the demonstration. Wed 3-3-48

Mrs. Walter Bowland
She defied Kluxers

Coach Says He's Ready To Shoot Klan Visitors

PM New York, N.Y. Fri 2-6-48

LAKEVIEW, Ga.

Walter Boland, high school coach, dug in at his home and announced that he would shoot his next hooded visitors "and not just to cripple, either."

This was after hooded Klansmen visited his house twice and both times were routed by his pregnant wife who, on one occasion kicked over a burning cross and, a few days later, drove off masked visitors with a shotgun.

PM, New York, N.Y. 2-6-48

The Klan intimidation started with a demand that Boland leave town because of a quarrel with a student over the coach's manner of disciplining his basketball squad.

Fri 2-6-48

Boland, who intends to remain in Lakeview until the term is over, said he was denied protection by the Sheriff who said he was "scared of the Klan" and suggested that Boland "behave" himself so the secret nightriders would have no cause to annoy him.

Worse Than Nothing

The Record Columbia, S.C.

When the Ku Klux Klan threatened Walter Bowland, the Lakeview, Ga., high school athletic coach with tarring and feathering the coach, like any other normal citizen, appealed to the sheriff for protection. Mon. 2-9-48

The coach, an ex-football star and an ex-Marine, had aroused the enmity of the klan by a controversy with one of the students. The klan appeared before his house, when he was not at home, and started to burn a fiery cross in the coach's front yard. Mrs. Bowland, the coach's wife, however, went out, kicked the cross over and called the assembled klansmen "yellow cowards."

The klansmen then resorted to the threat.

To the coach's appeal the sheriff, as he told the Chattanooga Times, replied, "I'm just as scared of the Ku Klux Klan as you are. You should conduct yourself in such a way that the klan wouldn't appear in front of your house."

If this were the sheriff's reply, and he says it was, then in self-respect he should resign his office. Any sheriff who is scared of the Ku Klux Klan or any other such organization of prospective law violators is worse than no sheriff at all. He prevents law enforcement by occupying the office instead of turning it over to some man of courage and fortitude, determined to see the law obeyed. The Record Columbia, S.C.

If he doesn't resign, he should be removed from office. Georgia needs to encourage law observance and law enforcement. Mon. 2-9-48

CHARTER SOUGHT

The Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.
Dat. 6-19-48

Columbus Seat Of Rival Klan

Steps are being taken to organize a rival group of Klansmen in Georgia.

Alton E. Pate, of 1209 Twenty-third St., Columbus, obtained a certificate from the Secretary of State's office here yesterday holding open for him a possible charter under the name of "The Original Southern Klan, Inc." If he follows through, he will seek a charter from the Muscogee County Superior Court.

At Columbus, Pate, young former banker and veteran, said he hopes to incorporate his organization and spread it throughout the State and Nation. He said it would be a "fraternal and patriotic" organization and not "political." Pate added that he was not prepared to state the relationship the new group would have with the present Klan outfit, which does not possess a charter; nor what would be the qualifications for membership in his "Original Southern Klan." 6-19-48

Col'd Bur. Sent Home
Columbus Ga.
Jun. 6/18/48

League Aims To Block New Organization

Charge Highly Placed Solons With Membership

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—Charging Ku Klux Klan interference with Federal elections, the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi Legue last Friday called upon the Senate campaign expenditures committee to inquire into Klan activities for possible violations of the corrupt practices act and other Federal laws governing elections.

The league also asked the Federal Communication Commission to take steps to block plans of the newly formed Original Southern Klans, Inc., at Columbus, Georgia, to set up a powerful radio broadcasting station.

It also charged that the Talmadge dominated faction of the Democratic party in Georgia is conspiring with the Klan to prevent colored voters from participating in the September 8, congressional and statewide primary elections.

QUESTIONING SOUGHT

The campaign expenditures investigating committee is asked to subpoena Herman Talmadge and Dr Samuel Green, grand dragon, to come to Washington for questioning under oath. The committee also is asked to require Dr. Green to bring with him and surrender to it records of the Klan's contributors and political disbursements.

In the statement issued by the league it was charged that at a secret meeting in June, a Klan spokesman, addressing Klavern No. 1 in Atlanta, claimed that a "surprising number" of members of Congress already are Klansmen, and referred to Senator Olin B. Johnston, Democrat, of South Carolina, as a "Brother Klansman."

The League offered to have one or more of its undercover Klan operators testify before the Senate committee on Klan activities aimed at preventing colored voters from voting and to elect "white supremacy" candidates to Congress.

CLAIM DOMINANCE

To support its charge of conspiracy between Talmadgeites and the Klan, the league asserted that the Democratic State convention, held in Macon, Georgia, Saturday, July 3, was dominated by "Kluxers and their fellow travelers."

Three principal speakers at the convention, the League asserted, were "very close to the Klan, if not inside it—Talmadge, who toasted the Grand Dragon at his birthday party; Marvin Griffin, who gave priority to callers giving him the Klan handshake while serving as adjutant during Talmadge's abortive gubernatorial putsch last year, and Judge T.Hicks Fort, who on Wednesday (June 30) granted a charter to "The Original Southern Klans. Inc.," in defiance of Georgia's express revocation of the Klan charter under Governor Ellis Arnall."

SEEK CHARTER REVOCATION

The league disclosed its counsel are initiating steps to seek revocation of the new Klan charter, contending that all of the grounds which led to the revocation of the earlier charter apply with additional force to the record of the two Klaverns which have constituted the new group.

Seeds of Intolerance

The Courier-Journal

Recently in our community there was the burning of a cross at a proposed Negro housing development. This reminds one of the seed of an ugly weed. It may be conveyed hither and thither by various and sundry means. To be sure, the insidious little germ may not bother one at first sight. It may be rendered harmless, however, with great ease if simple precautions are invoked against it. Yet when one neglects to sterilize the germ, or to up-root the weed once it sprouts, he takes a bad chance. When permitted to grow, even in the corner of the garden, it thrives and reproduces profusely. Then not only will the one garden become infested but also neighboring gardens.

We would do well not to permit any seed of ill will against racial and religious groups to germinate. We should uproot any such weeds which have begun to grow in our midst. We should not, however, become excited. The burning of a cross here is now merely a seed. But it does indicate that the seeds are here. Louisville, Ky.

Let us not tolerate the growth of such a weed in our community lest it will surely mar our civic and social atmosphere. Rev. LYMAN T. JOHNSON.

Louisville. 3-29-48

The Burning of Crosses

The Courier-Journal

It may be true that "the burner of crosses is never to be feared," but one wonders if it will be editorially stated that the moral lag in the nation that produces the burner of crosses is never to be feared. It is easy to agree with the editorial statement that such happenings come of immaturity. Obviously, the stupidities of immature adults, who have fashioned laws and who embrace unchristian, undemocratic customs that dictate segregation of and discrimination against the Negro, are redounding detrimentally to society even through acts of teen-age boys whose minds are warped by indoctrination of prejudice. 4-27-48

Today America is in world politics and for its own security must assume leadership. How can America demonstrate to the world that justice, equality and co-operation between white and colored people are possible while it has laws and customs that relegate Negro Americans to second-rate citizenship? How can America lead the world, in which the colored nations are in the majority, if it continues to give the presentment that only the white race is to enjoy the full fruits of democracy? How can America even have peace and prosperity within its own boundaries without abandoning the caste system, that is conducive to immaturity and bitterness? 4-27-48 AMELIA B. RAY

Louisville.

KKK Acts To Halt Race Vote In Louisiana

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

By Associated Negro Press

LAKE ARTHUR, La.—A definite attempt to discourage Negroes from voting in the Loulsiana gubernatorial Democratic primary on Jan. 20, in fact a direct threat obviously designed to frighten Negroes and keep them from participating in the election, was brought to light here last Friday by the Louisiana State Association of NAACP branches.

1-31-48

According to the organization's officials, Howard Higginbotham, a resident of this city, received a "warning" through the mails on Friday telling him that he and eight other Negro voters would "be out of business" if they voted in the primary. The letter, postmarked, "Lake Arthur, La., Jan. 15, 5 p. m., 1948," was signed with a crudely drawn skull and cross bones and the letters "KKK."

The letter states:

"Warning: Leader, if you or any of 8 voters try a act on 20th it will mean that you will be out of business. If one vote of the 8, you shall be the one to pay:—Emma Collin, Roosevelt Collin, Rodney Collin, Albert Cheney, Booker T. Brown, you and your wife. (signed) KKK."

This town is located in Jefferson Davis parish of Louisiana, where there are more than 200 Negroes registered as voters. The group mentioned in the threatening letter includes all of the Negro registered voters in Lake Arthur, the other registered Negro voters residing in Jennings and other twons of the parish.

Notified of the threat, Atty. P. Turead of New Orleans, president of the State NAACP conference, immediately requested the United States Department of Justice to investigate and to prosecute any violation of civil rights. He sent copies of the letter to postal inspectors and the United States Attorney general and urged an immediate probe of the condition and the protection of Negroes desiring to exercise their franchise in the primary.

Late Saturday, Mr. Turead said he was awaitng a reply from government authorities.

KKK (Missouri)

Missourian Receives Klan Note

Slater Business Man Forced To Withdraw Name

SLATER, Mo.— Rufus Thomas, who filed as a candidate for city councilman here, received a threatening letter on the eve of the primary which told of plans to organize a Ku Klux Klan to lynch him if he did not withdraw. Thomas withdrew from the race at the insistence of his family.

The letter, signed "Slater White People" read:

"This town is far too far South to have a dirty n—— l— in office. Quit now while there is still time. There are plans to organize a Ku Klux Klan here and will burn a cross and all your property. We'll lynch you. Withdraw your file now.— Slater White People."

Thomas has operated a grocery, market and confectionery business in Slater since the close of World War 1. He was encouraged to file for city council by some of the leading white citizens of Slater and had their support in his race.

Whites Resent Letter

Resentful of the letter signed "Slater White People," many white citizens of Slater have adopted resolutions condemning the writer of the letter.

The Charles E. Bollman post No. 78 of the American Legion and the local post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars both condemned the writer of the letter. The V.F.W. post wrote:

"Whereas our organization has been sullied by said letter, signed 'the white people of Slater' in which letter we, as white people, had no part and

"Whereas practices of this kind are considered by us to be not only cowardly and un-American, but designed also to be detrimental to the mutual respect which has always existed between the races in our community.

"Therefore, be it resolved that the Slater memorial post, V.F.W., disclaims for its members any responsibility for or agreement with the contents of said letter and that we condemn its author for his action."

Legion Adopts Resolution

The Legion post adopted a similar resolution.

Thomas said that he did not want to withdraw from the race despite the threatening letter but that his wife and other members of his family persuaded him to do so for their safety and protection.

The letter, which was sent through the mails, has been turned over to federal investigators.

In reporting the incident, the Slater News-Rustler called Thomas "one of the most trust-worthy and respected residents of the city and he has a lot of friends who bitterly resent the implications contained in the letter."

Many of the customers at Thomas' store are white.

Jersey Attorney General Pushes Klan Cross Probe

NEW YORK—At week's end, all was quiet on the New Jersey front around the home of Leroy Hutson and his family, but the New Jersey Attorney General had ordered a full scale investigation of the burning of a cross in front of the Huston home a week ago.

Attorney General Van Riper wired Monmouth County Prosecutor Carton, "This office is prepared to render any assistance required in effectively pursuing this investigation in order that those responsible for this outrageous act may be located and prosecuted." Mrs. Hutson told this paper Thursday that a state investigator had already questioned the Hutsons about the affair.

She revealed that one New Jersey state policeman is still patroling their home from twilight till the following morning. Meanwhile she has not curtailed any of her activities and the family comes and goes as it pleases. She said there still had been no identification of any of the cross-burners. Nor had their surrounding white neighbors made any friendly overtures yet to the Hutsons.

Cross Burned At Interracial Camp In N. J.

RINGWOOD, N. J.—(NNPA)—A cross-burning warning, emphasized with three shots, sent police last Friday night to Nature Friends Camp, a 200-acre reservation used by persons of various nationalities and races.

Atop a 30-foot flagpole, a crude, kerosene-soaked cross, 12 by six feet, was ablaze. Propped against the foot of the pole was a big piece of carboard on which was penciled: "This is the U.S.A. not Russia. If there is any trouble, you Communists—get it first." The warning was unsigned.

The police said the cross, whose poles had been covered with burlap and fasened with wire, had been hoisted to the top of the pole by an attached hook. The pole is about 200 feet from the club's tavern.

THREE SHOTS FIRED

Just before the cross became ignited, three shots were fired to attract attention, Kurt Bender, owner-director of the camp, said. A hurried search of the property was fruitless.

The cross was partially burned out by the time police arrived.

Two weeks ago, police said, some one opened the valve of the camp's swimming pool and before the act was discovered the pool had been almost drained.

Bender said there was nothing political about the purposes of the group. "We are only interested in outdoor and cultural activities," he said.

MANY FASCIST GROUPS

About a year ago there were rumors in the northern section of Passaic county that the Ku Klux Klan had been reactivated. However, it is not known where the KKK meets now, if it does, but it is believed the meeting place may be in Wayne Township, two municipalities from here.

The North Jersey area, prior and during the early part of World War II, flourished with a number of secret organizations. The German Bund counducted Nazi activities at several camps, most notably at the now disbanded Camp Nordland. That camp was used for KKK ceremonies on several occasions.

Man Whose Order Ended Klan, Seeks Explanation

Attorney General Says His Office Ready to Prosecute Wall Township Hoodlums

TRENTON—Attorney General Walter Van Riper, who in October, 1946, obtained an order from the Supreme Court outlawing the Ku Klux Klan in New Jersey, called upon Monmouth County Prosecutor J. Victor Carton on Wednesday for a report on the progress of the county investigation of the burning of the cross Friday night on the property of Leroy S. Hutson in Wall Township near Asbury Park.

Van Riper stated that his office is preparing to render any assistance required in effectively pursuing the investigation of the incident in order that those responsible may be located and prosecuted.

His office will not direct the Wall Township investigation, but it will join in the prosecution of any persons or groups of persons who participated in the burning, Van Riper stated.

Works as Usual

The 7x10 foot burning cross was presumably intended to intimidate Dr. and Mrs. Russell E. Wightman, who moved to New York.

Commuting to and from the Bronx address to work daily since 1941 required more than four hours of travel for Hutson who is an electrical engineering graduate of New York City College.

Hutson said of the cross burning: "I am going to stay here." His main concern, he said, was his wife and child.

Describing the incident, Hutson said that he returned at 9:30 Friday night from Belmar and it was about 10 o'clock when he turned out the lights. When he turned out the lights in the dining room, and saw lights reflecting on the shades, he then noticed the flaming cross.

Friends Formed Guard

Hutson telephoned Robert Downes of Asbury Park who arrived quickly in one of 19 cars bearing more than 100 persons from Asbury Park and Red Bank armed with guns, knives, pitch forks and other weapons and set up a guard around Hutson's property.

Hutson called State police at Howell Township barracks (Wall Township is without a police force) and then called Robert Knutz, a fellow worker from Evans laboratories.

Among those who answered Hutson's call for aid was Theodore Griffin of 37 Prospect St., Red Bank, who is the Elks' State civil liberties director.

Elks Offer Help

Griffin told the AFRO that the State's Elks will help in conducting an investigation.

Hutson's neighbors who were questioned by police denied being responsible for burning the cross, but stated that they feared that a colored family would lower property values.

There are about 20 persons living in Wall Township and they are farm workers, according to Griffin.

Wall Township is without police protection following dismissal of Chief Vernon Shibla, who is appealing his removal to the courts.

Wall Township was a center of Klan activity 20 years ago when thousands of Klansmen met weekly in the municipality, particularly at the old Marconi Home which is now Evans Laboratories.

The last cross burning at Wall Township was in April, 1940, and was followed that August by a joint meeting between the Klan and German-American Bund.

Hutson, 30-year-old signal corps radio engineer, into moving from his recently purchased home in the all-white community of Glendola. The cross was discovered about 10 p.m. Friday.

Determined to remain in the neighborhood, Hutson reported to work as usual this week at the U.S. Army's Evans Signal Corps Laboratories.

Hutson, born in Maine, moved to Glendola on June 10 from 960 Tinton Ave., Bronx, N.Y., with his wife, Ada, and his 8½-month-old son, Ronald, to the bungalow and five lots he purchased from

Minister Who Quit Klan Mum on Exposing Night Sheet Gang

JERSEY CITY — A former Baptist minister, who said he was once a chaplain of the Ku Klux Klan, in addition to holding high offices in the secret cloaked and hooded terror organization, has denounced the secret order after conversion to the Catholic faith, but he was faithful to the klan by refusing to disclose the name of any of its members.

"I am a sick man. I can't remember," mourned the white-haired minister, the Rev. Alton Young, 61, of 121 Garrison Ave., who was baptized a Roman Catholic recently and was confirmed Sunday at St. Aedan Roman Catholic Church.

Son of Minister

Mr. Young, who said he was a native of Texas, and a son of a Protestant minister, made his disclosure at his home on Thursday.

He has lived in Hudson County for the past 30 years and joined the hooded order and became its chaplain in the early 1930's. For nine years or so, Young said he was a member of the Klan which held meetings at Jersey City's Central Hall.

He said he served the society as State kludd (chaplain), grand kaliff (vice-president), and as part-time grand kleagle (State president) and grand klokard (national lecturer).

He quit the order eight years ago, he said:

"I don't like the Klan because they didn't practice what they preached about making a better America," and they were just interested in money, he added.

It was reported from reliable sources that Dr. Samuel Green of Atlanta Ga., grand dragon, said that he had never heard of Young, but that he might at one time have been a local kludd.

He is reported to be the former pastor of North Baptist Church, Jersey Ave. and Fourth St., and New Durham Baptist Church, North Bergen.

White Neighbors, Seeking to Oust Home Buyer, Burn 12-Foot Fiery Cross in Yard

N.J. State Troopers Guard Wall Township House of Radio Engineer; Warn Molesters

BY JAMES L. HICKS

WALL TOWNSHIP, N.J.— J. Forbes Smith, field representative of the division against discrimination of the New Jersey State Department of Education, assured Leroy Hutson here last Sunday that the State of New Jersey will not tolerate the burning of fiery crosses on the property of any of its citizens.

Smith made the statement to Hutson in a dining room interview at the Hutson home where last Friday night a 12-foot cross was burned 40 feet from Hutson's back door.

He said he was making an investigation of the case on Sunday because he knew that "Governor Driscoll will be asking our headquarters for a full report on the case the first thing Monday morning."

Hutson and his 26-year-old Virgin Islands-born wife, told Smith, and they were kept busy telling reporters and sympathizers all day, that they have no intentions of being frightened away from the modest 7-room home in Wall Township which they purchased a few weeks ago to enable Hutson to be near his work as a radio engineer in the Army's Signal Laboratories at Belmar, N.J.

With a shotgun standing in full view in the corner of his living room, Hutson remained calm and smoked his pipe as his wife tended their eight-month-old baby.

He refused to take down the charred and burned cross and after posing for one picture under it with his wife, refused to go near it again.

He said he was determined to stay at his home at all costs but begged reporters not to write sensational stories about his situation.

Friends Come to Aid

Hutson denied press statements that the friends who had come to his rescue had been armed with knives and pitchforks. He said many of them had had guns but that they had been orderly and well disciplined.

He also attempted to correct reports that the NAACP had sent the guards to his home. He said this was bad publicity for the organization and obviously untrue.

A white reporter asked Hutson to pose beneath the cross with the shotgun but he vigorously refused and said that was exactly the type of publicity he was trying to avoid.

Troopers on Guard

The detail of men sent last Friday to guard Hutson's home had been withdrawn Sunday but State troopers continue to make a period check of the area, driving by about every three hours and coming into the house to chat with Hutson.

Smith told Hutson the case had been turned over to the county prosecutor.

State Police Sergeant Aaron McCormick said that his investigation of neighbors around the Hutson home had convinced him that one or more of them had been [illegible]ty of the cross burning. He said they resented Hutson's moving into the area because they felt it would lower the value of their property.

Warns Neighbors

He warned the neighbors to stay away from the Hutson home and told them that persons guilty of the act could be prosecuted if found.

Smith told Hutson that the State is very much interested in the case and after giving him his card asked him to call him at any time and reverse the charges.

One of the first surprises that a reporter gets in coming to the Hutson home is the ruggedness of the area and the size and location of the home which has caused this furore on the Eastern Shore.

Wall Township is a small hamlet about six miles north of Asbury Park located in the little village of Glendora.

A winding unpaved narrow road leads to Hutson's house. The house itself is one storied, painted white, the painting inside is unfinished and kerosene supplied from an outside tank is used in the heating plant. The house has running water but uses an outhouse.

Neighbors Won't Talk

Hutson's neighbors (there is a house immediately across the street and one spaced 40 yards on either side) appear curiously interested in all his visitors but flatly refused to utter a word to reporters.

At one time last Sunday when three reporter's cars, Smith's car, and the State troopers' car was in front of the small house, a group of white neighbors gathered in two clusters about 20 yards above the house. They appeared to be busily engaged in tending the lawn but were obviously attempting to learn what was taking place at the Hutson home.

Mrs. Hutson, beautiful wife of the radio engineer, said she is not afraid. She was bolstered in her remarks by her mother-in-law, Mrs. Hutson, who has come down from the Bronx in New York to be near her son.

Judge Gives Support

Hutson disclosed that although none of his immediate neighbors have offered him any word of sympathy, many white persons in neighboring towns have called him and urged him not to budge. One of these was white judge in Belmar who told him not to be violent but not to yield an inch.

Hutson, 29, is a 1941 engineering graduate of City College of New York and a post graduate student there now. He said that he had been working at Evans Laboratories since graduation, and bought the home to save himself from commuting to New York daily.

Neighbors, who admit disliking the idea of having a colored family in the area, denied setting the cross ablaze.

PM New York, N.Y. Mon. 6-14-48

Defies Fiery Cross With his eight-months-old son in his arms, Leroy Hutson, radio engineer, stands near a 12-foot cross which was burned on the lawn of his home in Wall Township, N. J., near Asbury Park, Friday night. Hutson told a reporter (*left*) he had received a number of anonymous telephone calls since Wednesday, when he moved into the house, asking whether he intended to stay in the house. "I'm not moving," he said after the incident. Hutson, attached to the U. S. Signal Corps laboratory at Camp Evans, moved into the house from the Bronx to save himself a 58-mile trip daily. State troopers are guarding his home to prevent further molestation. *Associated Press Photo*

Cross Burned As Negro Moves Into White Area

The Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky.

Wall Township, N. J., June 12 (AP)—A 12-foot cross was burned last night outside the home of a Negro radio engineer who had moved into an all-white neighborhood. State police said they were warning his neighbors to stay off the man's property. Sun

State Police Sgt. Joseph J. McCormack said the cross was burned on the property of Leroy Hutson after the family had received threatening telephone calls.

Hutson moved here Wednesday with his wife and 8-month-old son to be close to his work at Evans Signal Laboratories. He previously had commuted 58 miles daily from his home in the Bronx. 6-13-48

Cross Is Burned At Negro's Home

The Post Washington, D.C.

Asbury Park, N. J., June 12 (U.P.). State police today supplanted a voluntary guard of 30 Negroes, standing vigil over the home of a Negro family on whose lawn a 12-foot cross was burned last night. Sun. 6-13-48

Police said the cross, traditional symbol of the Ku Klux Klan, was burned on the lawn of Leroy Hutson, a radio engineer attached to the U. S. Signal Corps laboratory at Camp Evans.

Nine carloads of Negroes, replying to Hutson's call for aid, sped to Hutson's home in an all-white neighborhood.

Cross Blazes in Yard

Hutson recently bought the house, formerly occupied by white persons. He said a number of anonymous phone callers wanted to know if he intended to live there.

Late last night, as he was reading, he looked out the window and saw the cross blazing in his yard. The Negro said he feared mainly for his wife and 8-month-old child, who had just arrived from New York. 6-13-48

Police said the volunteers guarded Hutson's home until daybreak. The Post

Hutson said he also called State police, who investigated but found no evidence of those who erected the cross. Washington, D.C.

Hutson's home is near the place where the Ku Klux Klan once established headquarters, some 20 years ago. Sun. 6-13-48

Hutson said he intended staying there and would not be intimidated.

State police said they will guard Hutson's home but will disperse any armed private guard.

White Residents Warned

They warned residents in the surrounding area to keep off Hutson's property.

A spokesman for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People denied a report that the voluntary civilian guard came from his organization.

Roy Wilkins, assistant secretary of the NAACP, said: "It is not the policy of this association to use force." 6-13-48

Cross Is Burned At New Jersey Mixed Race Camp

Columbus Record Sun. 8-16-48 Ringwood, N. J., Aug. 16 (AP)—A cross was burned atop a flagpole and three shots were fired in the air last night at a camp for mixed races here, police reported today.

No one was seen entering or leaving the grounds of the Nature Friends Camp, police said, but the following note was scribbled on a piece of cardboard and left at the base of the pole:

"This is the USA, not Russia. If there is any trouble, you Communist—get it first."

The 12-foot by six-foot cross was made of poles which were covered with burlap fastened by wires, police said, and it was hoisted to the top of the flagpole by an attached hook. Mon. 8-16-48

The camp is situated in woods a few miles south of the New York state line.

SEEK LIGHTERS OF CAMP CROSS

New York Herald Tribune Sun. 8-15-48

(The Associated Press)

Ringwood, N. J., Aug. 14. — Officials of the Nature Friends Camp, where a cross was burned last night atop a flagpole, said today "Klan elements" dislike the fact that "we do not practice discrimination."

The fiery cross was found after three shots were fired to attract attention.

Police, who were summoned to the 200-acre camp for mixed races, said no trace of the lighters of the cross had been found. Mon. 8-16-48

Police Chief Henry Roach said he knew of no Ku Klux Klan activities in the area for many years. He said there were "some" a number of years ago.

Police were investigating a note scribbled on a piece of cardboard, found at the base of the flagpole, which read, "This is the USA, not Russia. If there is any trouble, you Communist ———— get it first."

Camp officials said their organization is not political.

The committee of the camp, which is located in a wooded area near the New York state line, said in a formal statement:

"Camp Midvale is a co-operative camp, built and owned by the Nature Friends of America, an organization of workers and their families, which is devoted to hiking, recreational and cultural activities. Mon. 8-15-48

"The Nature Friends was organized in the United States of America in 1910. The camp was founded 28 years ago. Membership in the organization and its camp is open to people of all races, creeds, color and partisan affiliation."

Negro Vets Defy Klan Cross to Guard Home

By Joseph North

ASBURY PARK, N. J., June 16.—The cross that burns in Wall Township near the lonely home of Leroy Hutson, a Negro engineer, has roused the Negroes of neighboring communities into 24-hour vigils that are still going on. They do not believe the danger is over. Daily, after dark, carloads of veterans drive through the woods here from Asbury Park, Long Branch and elsewhere "to make sure" nothing has happened to the home or to Mr. Hutson, his 26-year old wife Ada, and their eight-month-old son Ronald.

They remember this as old Klan country where 20 years ago thousands of Klansmen met weekly in the remote fields of Wall Township. A favorite meeting spot was the old Marconi home, now the site of the Evans Laboratory, where Hutson works.

Hutson moved there a week ago from the Bronx. He had been obliged to commute four hours daily to his place of work, run by the Signal Corps. He is a radio engineer, graduate of CCNY.

Last Friday night a wooden cross flared 50 yards from his modest bungalow, which he had just bought from an associate in the laboratory, Dr. Russell E. Wightman. All day Friday anonymous phone calls inquired if he intended to live here. When he replied "yes" the caller hung up. That night the cross burned.

Hutson phoned the State Police. Then he called friends in Asbury Park. Within an hour, 25 friends, mostly veterans, rushed out to defend him. One brought a shotgun for Mr. Hutson who has since taught his wife to use it, if necessary, while he is at work. A lone State Policeman arrived also.

Hutson, a young, stocky man of 30, told me he "intends to stay." When I came out here on Pacific Avenue, a dirt road through the woods, the engineer was busy installing an electric light behind his house. "So we can see what's going on in the dark," he said. He had rigged up a warning system that would ring a bell if anybody trespasses on his property. Relatives and friends had come from surrounding towns and from New York to help every way they could. Hutson's father was chopping down the underbrush, near the dwelling, "so nobody could crawl up in the dark."

This entire community consists of some 30 bungalows about six miles from Asbury Park. High trees conceal it from the main highway. I talked to various residents here and discovered many who resent the fiery cross episode. John Magaugey, who lives directly across the road from Hutson, said I could quote him exactly:

"Negroes have a right to live wherever they want, as we white people do. That's the law of the land and the constitution."

He told me his next door neighbor, Mrs. Emma Beuer, felt "the same way I do. We had talked it over." When he made his attitude known, another neighbor berated him "for being a n-----lover."

Magaugey said he planned to call on his new neighbor shortly to "pay his respects" and express his indignation at the effort to terrorize Hutson. "But he won't scare," Magaugey said. "I respect that."

Others who refused to reveal their names showed evidences of Klan psychology. One woman defended the Klan of post-Civil War days.

"The Klan was formed to protect white southern women from rape," she said. "Besides, when Negroes move in, property values deteriorate."

She denied, however, any knowledge of the culprit, and said she "didn't agree with the cross burning."

Many Negroes and whites in the nearby towns expressed indignation at the burning. The community sentiment can perhaps be best summed up in Asbury Park evening press editorials:

"Two sticks fashioned in the form of a cross and a match in the hand of an unthinking man can start a conflagration beyond his power and all his fellows to extinguish. Hitler found it so."

Negro veterans at the Asbury Park servicemen's club and on the streets said in effect:

"The Klan could scare people 20 years ago but this is 1948. We've been to war and we're not afraid to fight for our rights."

Some resented the fact that no police authority "examined the cross for fingerprints or the mud for footprints." They wanted a thorough inquiry into the whole matter so the culprits could be brought to justice.

"If anything should happen to Mr. Hutson or his home," a Negro veteran told me, "we can't vouch for what would happen."

The community—Negro and white—is on the move. Theodore Griffin, head of the State Civil Liberties Committee of the Negro Elks, said he is trying to organize a protest meeting Sunday demanding prompt and thorough investigation by Governor Driscoll.

Sidney Stolberg, Congressional candidate of the Independent People's Party, called on every person in the Congressional district to write Gov. Driscoll demanding a prompt and thorough state investigation.

Protests were also expressed by the Civil Rights Congress of Ocean and Monmouth Counties and by Otto Anstrom, farm organizer of the Communist Party for New Jersey.

State Trooper Cook of the nearby Howells Barracks told me: "It's quiet there now." No, he did not know if the Klan did it. It's been a quiet community up to the present.

The state police inquiry is finished, he told me. The results are in the hands of the Monmouth County prosecutor's office. Trooper Cook couldn't tell me the conclusion.

When I asked him what he thought might happen next, he shrugged: "Who can tell?" At press time I tried to get Charles Frankel, first assistant prosecutor at

N. J. Cross Burning Is Blamed on Klan

Ringwood, N. J., Aug. 14 (AP)—Officials of the Nature Friends Camp, where a cross was burned last night atop a flagpole, said today, "Klan elements" dislike the fact that "we do not practice discrimination."

The fiery cross was found after three shots were fired to attract attention.

Police, who were summoned to the 200-acre camp for mixed races, said no trace of the lighters of the cross had been found.

Police Chief Henry Roach said he knew of no Ku Klux Klan activities in the area for many years. He said there were "some" a number of years ago.

Police were investigating a note scribbled on a piece of cardboard, found at the base of the flagpole, which read, "This is the U. S. A., not Russia. If there is any trouble, you Communist ——— get it first."

Camp officials said their organition is not political.

The committee of the camp, which is in a wooded area near the New York State line, said in a formal statement:

"The Nature Friends was organized in the United States in 1910. The camp was founded 28 years ago. Membership in the organization and its camp is open to people of all races, creeds, color and partisan affiliation."

torney of the county, in charge of the evidence. He wasn't available. "Out trying a murder case," the secretary said.

New York state line climaxed their actions last week by firing shots and burning a 12-foot cross near the camp grounds.

Campers said the shots were fired just prior to the burning of the cross. They also said most of the water was drained from the swimming pool by unidentified persons a few weeks ago.

Bigots Burn Cross at Camp in N. J.

RINGWOOD, N.J.—The first cross-burning in New Jersey "for many years" occurred here last Friday night at the Nature Friends' Camp Midval, whose officials said "Klan elements" dislike the fact that "we do not practice discrimination."

The fiery cross was found atop the camp's flagpole, after revolver shots rang out to attract attention. Police called to the interracial camp said they were unable to find any trace of the persons responsible.

They did find a note scribbled on a piece of cardboard at the base of the flagpole which read, "This is the U.S.A., not Russia. If there is any trouble, you Communists—get it first." Officials of the camp denied that their organization is political.

In a formal statement they pointed out:

"Camp Midvale is a co-operative camp, built and owned by the Nature Friends of America, an organization of workers and their families, which is devoted to hiking, recreational and cultural activities.

"The Nature Friends was organized in the United States of Ameri-

Kluxer Terrorists Fire On New Jersey Interracial Camp

HEREN, N. J. — Unidentified terrorists of the Nature Friends interracial camp located only a few miles from the

ca in 1910. The camp was founded 28 years ago. Membership in the organization and its camp is open to people of all races, creeds, color and partisan affiliation."

3 1948 KKK (New York)

Revive KKK Upstate To Halt Wallace Group

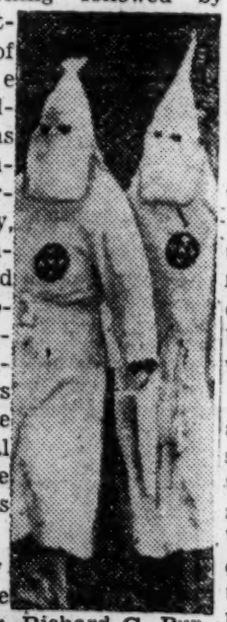
Daily Worker
New York, N.Y. Wed. 3-31-48

By Arnold Sroog

The outlawed Ku Klux Klan has been revived upstate in an effort to intimidate growing support for Henry A. Wallace's presidential candidacy, it was learned yesterday. Crosses have been burned at Woodstock, N. Y., and Ulster County leaders of the Progressive Citizens of America (PCA) report that threats have been made against supporters of Wallace. The first cross, a well-constructed one about 10 feet high, was burned on a hill outside the town on the night of March 19.

PCA leaders protested the Klan's revival to Gov. Dewey last Thursday and demanded that he order an investigation by the state. To date no reply has yet been received from the Governor.

The cross-burning followed by two days a meeting in support of Wallace at the Woodstock Gallery, which was attended by members of the American Labor Party, PCA, the Farmers Union and unaffiliated supporters of Wallace. Ulster County PCA leaders attributed the the Klans revival to anger over the success of this meeting.



Immediately following the the cross-burning, Richard G. Burlingame, chairman of the Ulster County PCA, demanded that the Woodstock town board investigate the affair, since the Klan is illegal in this state. The board, however, attempted to whitewash the action, terming it "a kids' prank" and refused to investigate.

3-31-48
New York, N.Y.

The whitewash failed to stick, however, when opposition arose from an unexpected source — the town's kids. High school students, who attend nearby Kingston H. S., banded together to protest what they considered a smear against Woodstock youth and vehemently denied that "kids" had anything to do with the cross burnings.

Daily Worker

Two days after the demand for an investigation was made of Gov. Dewey, a second burning took place, this time inside the town. On the night of March 27 a crude hammer and sickle were burned on a vacant lot adjoining Ellwin's grocery store.

FORM COMMITTEE Wed.

A citizens committee to press for action against the Klan was formed after the second burning and again demanded action from the town board. The board continued to stall but issued a statement condemning "racist groups."

Dissatisfied with the stalling of the town board, the citizens committee has arranged a meeting today with the district attorney of Ulster County to press for an investigation of the Klan.

Daily Worker

The Klan has not restricted its attempted intimidation to Wallace supporters. A local radio commentator, Bob Browning, who conducts a program on the Kingston station WKNY, reported the cross-burnings over the air. As a result Browning received threatening letters from Klansmen, which he promptly read on his program.

OTHER MOVES REPORTED

The Klan revival upstate has been accompanied by similar moves to suppress the Wallace movements in other areas. In Rockland county a PCA chapter was refused the use of a church hall in Nyack for a meeting as a result of pressure from the church board. The PCA then shifted the meeting to a local night club, where an overflow meeting was held.

New York N.Y.

In Great Neck, L. I., last Wednesday the PCA chapter was forced to hold a meeting to hear Ella Winter, correspondent for the **N.Y. Post**, at a member's home after two restaurants barred them. It was reported that threats had been made against the restaurant owners in connection with liquor licenses.

The two restaurants were Dejean's and Hidden House. Hidden House agreed to allow the meeting after the owner of Dejean's had cancelled the meeting two days before the date.

Wed. 3-31-48

Last Wednesday night 200 people showed up at Hidden House for the meeting, which the owner cancelled abruptly, forcing the people to adjourn to a member's house.

Klan Threatens White People Of South As Well As Negroes

The Afro
Fri 3-5-48
Nashville Tenn
3-6

By Albert Anderson

Atlanta—(ANP)—A study of the activities of the Ku Klux Klan made largely from newspaper articles during the past five years gives strong evidence that organization has been almost as great a threat to the freedom, civil liberty and advancement of white people as it has been in some cases to Negroes.

The Klan has threatened white people whom its officials or members did not like. It has proved dictatorial with respect to its efforts to force white people to accept its doctrines and policies. Klan leaders claim the organization's aim is to preserve Americanism and democracy, but the record of the klan proves the exact opposite.

No group proves the danger of intolerant organizations to the rights, security and wellbeing of all American citizens regardless of race more than the Ku Klux Klan. Many times adherents of democracy point out that bigotry, intolerance and hatred though aimed at some particular group will sooner or later be aimed at other groups. The record of the Ku Klux Klan proves this thesis.

The Ku Klux Klan has threatened white citizens in different parts of the south even when the basis for it had no relation whatever to the race question. That is what happened last week in Lakeview, Ga. It has happened against white citizens in other Georgia cities. During the last five years the klan has threatened white citizens in more than four southern states.

The Georgia case shows conclusively that the klan is developing fascist tendencies. That is the logical development of any organization which singles out a race, group or element of the population for its target of attack solely for reasons of color, place of birth, historical background or any other such superficial criteria.

The klan threatened last week to tar and feather a white coach and the principal of his school because the coach had a fight with a student in the school gymnasium. The klan burned a cross in front of Coach Bowland's home in Lakeview, Ga., on Jan. 16, but the coach's wife in his absence kicked the fiery symbol over and called the hooded riders "yellow cowards."

Bowland had had a fight with one of the students of his school and after the cross was burned at his home appealed for protection to Sheriff Jim Moreland of Gwinnett county, who refused to comply.

3 1948

KKK (South Carolina)

WHITE-ROBED MEN BURN CROSS IN NEGRO RESIDENTIAL AREA

Columbia Record, Columbia S.C.
Fri 7-30-48

A group of men, who neighborhood residents said were dressed in white robes, burned a cross at midnight last night in Booker Washington Heights, and then drove through the area in an automobile and fired guns into the air, the Richland county sheriff's department was informed.

An eight-foot cross, stuffed on the outside with cotton soaked in kerosene, was planted in the ground near Booker Washington Heights school, near Beaumont and Grant street, and set afire by the men. 7-30-48

When Sheriff's Deputies George W. Taylor, Bud Dunaway and Rufus P. Davis answered the call, the blazing cross, which had burned considerably, was pushed to the ground and the last blaze extinguished.

Half a dozen Negroes gathered near the scene, but most residents watched from inside their homes without going out to investigate. Sheriff's deputies said the outside watchers were calm over the incident.

The Booker Washington Heights area is a Negro residential section. Fri 7-30-48

It was the first incident of the type reported here in recent times, although a similar cross-burning occurred some months ago in Sugartown, near West Columbia, where a cross was burned near Lakeview school.

South Carolina Has A La\

The Columbia Record
Editorial Page 7-30-48

There is an ominous revival of Ku Kluxism in South Carolina, imported, the evidence suggests, in large part from Georgia.

Just before the first primary two fiery crosses were burned in Aiken county, adjoining Georgia. Saturday before the second primary a motorcade of robed and hooded men paraded through Williston, Blackville, Elko. Many of these cars also bore Georgia license plates.

But it probably isn't all a Georgia importation. And its rebirth is perhaps understandable if at the same time inexcusably silly. It grows out of the President's championship of the so-called civil rights program, for political purposes, and the too violent reaction of the South to it, a reaction which has had the effect of defeating its own purpose by blowing up the issue beyond all need or fact. The hatemongerers of the Ku Klux have been quick to seize the opportunity offered and organizers are going around offering to save civilization for $10 a head or whatever the present price schedule calls for.

Georgians, invading South Carolina, may not be blamed for not knowing South Carolina law, but the law enforcement officers of the state and the communities invaded should know that South Carolina has a law making it a felony, punishable by one to ten years imprisonment, for any masked or disguished person, individually or as a group, to menace or intimidate any other person or persons.

This act, passed in 1928, was aimed at the hooded and robed hoodlums of the klan. It has been in cold storage since the klan went out of fashion, but if the kluxers come back it can be revived.

On The Wrong Track

The attempt is being made at Anderson to revive the imitation Ku Klux Klan. *Anderson Mail 2-12-48*

What can the kluxers do with bed sheets and hoods that South Carolina cannot do out in the open? *The Record*

And why shouldn't South Carolinians prefer to make their fight in the open? What are they ashamed of that they want to hide themselves in mobs? *Columbia, S.C.*

Or is somebody trying to capitalize on the day's confusion and make a little profit? *2-12-48*

South Carolina KKK Seeks To Hold Parade

Montgomery, Ala. Sun 2-8-48

ANDERSON, S. C., Feb. 7.—(AP)—The Ku Klux Klan, inactive here since 1941, has asked permission to parade through the public square next Friday night, Chief of Police W. I. Burden reported Saturday.

Burden said he told an anonymous telephone caller that he could not authorize such a parade. The request may be referred to the city council at its meeting Monday night. *2-8-48*

City officials here have contended that parades of this sort should be barred on the grounds that they endanger the public safety. *The Advertiser 2-8-48*

Klan parades have been held recently in nearby Georgia communities. *Montgomery, Ala.*

Police Chief Uninformed Of Any Klan Plan

Columbia Record Columbia, S.C.

Chief of Police L. J. Campbell said today that he had not been informed with regards to purported plans for holding an unhooded parade by the Ku Klux Klan here Wednesday night.

Chief Campbell said that he would confer today with City Attorney Paul A. Cooper to see whether such a demonstration would call for issuance for a permit by the City of Columbia. *Tue. 3-30-48*

Recently, application for a Klan parade was denied at Anderson.

State law enforcement officers were requested in the past two weeks to investigate cross-burning and other activities in Sugar town community, near West Columbia, across the Congaree in Lexington county, attributed to the Klan.

The present instance was the first reported Klan activity here in some time.

Carolina Klan May Not Parade

Montgomery, Ala.

ANDERSON, S. C., Feb. 10—(AP)—The Ku Klux Klan asked the Anderson City Council for a parade permit and received a prompt and uncomplimentary no. *Sun.*

Mayor J. L. Sherard said that "No one wearing masks is going to parade in Anderson if I have anything to say about it." *2-10-48*

Alderman James Catcart blamed everything on the "political big shots in Washington. They are trying to stir up trouble here in the South."

"If it ever comes to the point where the white people have to rise up," he added, "I'm ready to go just as I am dressed now. I am not in favor of any masked and hooded mob."

Alderman John Lambert said at a council meeting last night he "didn't like it" when a Klansman phoned him for a permit to parade Friday night and said he couldn't identify himself. *2-10-48*

Burn 6 Crosses In Three Weeks

The Record Columbia, S.C. Sat 2-15-48

COLUMBIA, S. C.—(ANP)—Citizens in close-by West Columbia and Cayce are wondering if there is an organized group now making it a business to intimidate Negroes.

Within three weeks there have been no less than six crosses burned in that area. Local officers, on a spirited hunt, have been unable to find a trace of the culprits.

One citizen, who claims to know practically every person in both races at West Columbia, said he was among some fifty patrons at a night spot who saw three men, unmasked, erect a fire on one of the Ku Klux Klan emblems.

Klansmen Burn Huge Cross On Bettis Academy Campus

The Lighthouse

TRENTON, S. C.—A huge fiery cross, symbol of the Ku Klux Klan, blazed itself out here on the campus of Bettis Academy last Thursday night, tourched off by a motorcade of unidentified white men, who later drove about leisurely on the campus and finally disappeared in the night. *Sun 8-8-48*

The burning, believed to have been perpetrated by rsidents of Edgefield county, home of governor J. Strom Thurmond, and which with Aiken county divides the Bettis people, presdient A. C. Hightower had received numebous verbal and telephone messages of a threatening nature.

The white youngesters, 24 in number, half of them young women, directed by three white adults, were orphans, sent by the Quaker- sponsored America Friends Association from Philadelphia to help construct a needed building on the campus.

The youngsters, it was reasoned, could enjoy a pleasant summer and at the same time contribute the cost of construction, part of which was to be constructed by the community and Bettis students, the result being a great financial saving to the institution, which it is said is in great need of funds.

CAMPUS PATROLLED

The white students lived together, separated by sexes of course, but mixed with Negro youngsters during the day. *Sun 8-8-48*

Shortly after their arrival, some whites from Edgefield began complaining and sheriffs of Aiken and Edgefield county took up periodic patrols of the campus, following advice that the students be removed, made to president Hightower. The Rev. Hightowler, heeding the counsel of some faculty members, resisted for one week but later gave in to halt the patrol and avoid possible disturbances.

On one occasion, during the patrolling, this instructor said, sheriffs and their deputies became particularly irked when they found the dozen white girls swimming together where the Negro students usually swam. *Columbia SC*

White ministers from Edgefield removed the white girls to that nearby town, where they remained until arrangements were completed to transfer them and the white youths to Rock Hill, where they are reported to be doing the same type of thing, only at an all-white institution.

4-H CLUBS TARGET

The Thursday night burning occured while the institution was host to 4-H clubs, which were holding their camping and meeting period at Bettis. No one could say what the purpose of the demonstration was, unless intended as a follow up of the preceding week's actions.

S.C. Governor Warned On Cross Burning Incidents

Journal Sunday

COLUMBIA, S. C.—(ANP)—A warning that future fiery cross incidents in West Columbia will "meet a hostile reception," was dispatched to Gov. Strom Thurmond by John McCray, editor of the Lighthouse and Informer, here last week. The warning was made following the burning of four crosses in a Negro section of Lexington county. *10-31-48*

In the letter to the governor, McCray asked that a "declaration to prosecute and deter such unlawful public acts" be made.

"I have no doubt but that reappearance of a cross burning group in West Columbia would meet a hostile reception. Somebody will get hurt and as quickly as that South Carolina will have on her hands an intolerable and unwanted situation." *11-3-48*

At a press conference, the governor stated he would be "glad to act if there is any report of law violation," but added that McCray was probably more interested in publicity than protection.

He was referring to the fact that the editor had given copies of his letter to newsmen before sending the original to him.

KKK Tries To Sway Negro Vote Case Ruling

The Advocate Sat 10-23-48

CHARLESTON, S. C., Oct. 22.—(AP)—U. S. District Judge J. Waites Waring said tonight the Ku Klux Klan attempted to influence his decision on the Negro vote case.

He received a letter signed by the "Knights of the Ku Klux Klan," which asked his "cooperation in a favorable decision for the white people."

Klan Threatens Judge Waring

The Lighthouse 10-31-48

U. S. JUDGE NAMES FLEMING EASTERN DISTRICT CRIER

CHARLESTON, S. C.—U. S. District Court Judge J. Waites Waring disclosed Friday that he had received a letter from the "Knights of the Ku Klux Klan" in an attempt to threaten and influence his further decisions on voting practices and, entirely incidental and unrelated, that he had named 38 year-old John Fleming of Charleston official court crier in the Eastern District of South Carolina.

The eminent jurist, whose decision in the Elmore vs. Rice primary case on July 12, 1947 shatter-

They have an 18-year-old son, John, Jr.

His appointment gives the court its first colored crier since the late U. S. Court Judge Ernest F. Cochran presided. Judge Cochran drew a Republican appointment. His crier was Henry Farms, since deceased.

As crier Mr. Fleming's duties will include announcing the opening of court sessions, arrival of the judge into his chamber and adjournment of judicial sessions.

TEXT OF KLAN LETTER

The Klan letter, bearing a Columbia postmark and typed written, reads as follows:

"We, in the name of the white citizens of South Carolina, do beg to call your attention that you give due consideration in the matters of the present condition that is to be rendered by the courts broke down segregation laws and customs in our state. You must realize and have knowledge of the fearful conditions that similar decisions brought to our state in the period of 1865, when the courts broke down segregation laws and customs in our state. You must realize the fearful racial hatred that will follow any adverse decision that democratic party which will follow any adverse decision that will result in the present case under your consideration against you may render in the present case as a white citizen of the white people of your own state.

"We again trust that we will have your cooperation in a favorable decision for the white people, which will in the end do more justice to the Negroes themselves than the past decisions tha you have been making.

"Respectfully submitted,

"Knights of the Ku Klux Klan Members."

200 Klan Caravan Scouts Several Towns

BLACKVILLE, S. C. — Citizens here, late Tuesday, confirmed reports that a motorcade, estimated variously at between 100 and 300 cars, many bearing Georgia license plates, passed through Blackville early Saturday evening.

Some eyewitnesses said the caravan, bearing white robed figures, was led by a state highway patrolman. Credence to this angle was substantiated in part by reports that many people, hearing sirens, dashed to their doors looking for a fire. Among them were children.

City authorities had not been reached late Tuesday for their account of the incident but several persons talked freely.

One merchant said that while usually he takes in around $300 Saturday nights alone from Negro shoppers, his income Saturday night was less than one-third the amount.

NEGROES FLEE STREETS

He said that the town was jammed with Saturday afternoon and night Negro shoppers but thirty minutes after the caravan passed through, "You couldn't find a Negro on the streets."

Asked what he thought was behind the appearance here, he said, "I don't know but it looks like a bunch of damned fools trying to stir up trouble." He was white.

It was understood that town authorities were also bitter over the incident. No permit for such a demonstration had been issued. The town's mayor was ill and some other officials were out of town at the time, it was reported.

HINT WILLLISTON TIE-IN

A possible tie-in between the parade and a double cutting and shooting at Williston, 17 miles away, through which the motorcade passed shortly before was being studied.

Sheriff Jeff Black of Barnwell county explained that Williston officers Williams and Westbury were cut, Williams seriously, by Boston Smalls, a Negro whom they sought to arrest on a disorderly charge. Smalls was shot three times, all flesh wounds, in the affray, and was lodged in the Aiken county jail for safe-keeping and then removed to the penitentiary at Columbia.

Rumors were that the klansmen's appearance had precipitated the Williston incident.

S.C. White Baptist Unit Denounces Preiudice, KKK

COLUMBIA, S.C. (ANP)—White Baptists of South Carolina denounced race prejudice and the Ku Klux Klan in resolutions, passed at its 128th annual meeting last week.

Meeting at the First Baptist church, the South Carolina Baptist Convention asked its members to work to help colored, and warned them that the Klan did not stand for Christian principles.

Plank five entitled "Race Relations," read

"1. We should make continued effort to help our colored brethern through aid to their schools and co-operation in improving their church and denominational life.

Recalls KKK Record

"2. We sould seek to counteract the bad effects of politices on race relations. We deplore the use of race prejudices as a means of securing votes. In this Christian state we should appeal to more constructive and Christian motives.

"3. We wish to warn our people against any affiliation with the Ku Klux Klan. We believe it is an unnecessary organization totally at variance with our Christian and democratic way of life. We call on our law enforcement agencies to enforce the law against hooded and intimidating organizations. We remember the bad effect of this organization following World War I, and we should not allow this to be duplicated."

Klansmen Burn Huge Crosses As Bystanders Laugh

CLEARWATER, S. C.—If the hooded hoodlums who erected and set fire to two huge crosses near the Storm Branch Baptist church here Monday night could have been in the voting meeting, they would have been greatly disappointed.

James M. Hinton, state NAACP president, who addressed the citizens on procedures for voting in Tuesday's primaries, said that he, Rev. H. M. Taylor, Benjamin Mack and Eugene Montgomery, state executive NAACP secretary, saw one eight foot cross flaming about 1,000 yards from the church as they approached the church, located in Jones valley, from Clearwater.

The party stopped their car and went up to the burning emblem to inspect it. Whites on a nearby front porch watched silently. It was the first one they had ever seen.

Arriving at the church, and about 1,000 yards beyond, on the road apporaching from Hamburg, there was another cross burning.

Hamburg, incidentally, was the scene of a bloody racial affair shortly after 1900.

CITIZENS LAUGH

The packed church almost lifted the rafters with laughter when Mr. Hinton suggested that, "Tell the white folks they'd better save all this good lumber they are burning around here. They tell me there is a lumber shortage and also that this fall stove wood is going to be pretty hard to get.'

Throughout the meeting the people laughted at refrences to the burnings, but went about the business of arranging their slate for Tuesday's primary. Several stopped at the sites and inspected the coals still smoldering, then they went on home.

Mr. Hinton said he arrived at the church about 8:25 Monday night.

Dixie Town Bars Parade Of KKK

ANDERSON, S. C.—The Ku Klux Klan will no longer parade in Anderson, S. C. Mayor J. L. Sherard announced this week.

"I will not allow any group of men wearing hoods and seeking to hide their identity to use the streets of Anderson for such a demonstration," the mayor said.

Thurmond Should Require Ku Klux To Obey Law

C. R. McMillan, executive secretary of the state highway commission, denies the report that there were any state highway patrol cars in the Ku Klux Klan motorcade which invaded Orangeburg and North Saturday night.

The state highway department has refused previous Ku Klux klan requests for patrol escorts and denied klansters permission to use sirens in their demonstrations, Mr. McMillan said.

Apparently, however, sirens were used by some of the cars in the klan motorcade, in violation of the law of South Carolina, and the whole parade, which drove through the Negro districts of Orangeburg may have been a violation of state law, which forbids in Section 1131 of the criminal code any person or persons "while wearing a mask or otherwise disguised" to "offer to assault, threaten, menace or intimidate" any other person or persons.

Obviously these klansmen had no legitimate business in the Negro section of Orangeburg. They toured the section for the purpose of offering to menace or intimidate the residents of that area. They had no legitimate business circling the blocks in which particular persons lived. Whether they did intimidate anybody or not is another question. But it isn't necessary to prove that anybody was actually intimidated.

The use of sirens on automobiles is forbidden in South Carolina by Section 1623, Subsection 20, except on emergency vehicles answering an emergency call, and no klan parade, as the state highway department correctly holds, constitutes an emergency.

There is room here for the Governor to act to put an end to this business of cluttering up the highways and streets of South Carolina for advertising purposes, if there be any real purpose in the motorcades other than this. And he should act.

For the revival of the Ku Klux klan is an attempt to capitalize on Governor Thurmond's campaign against the President's so-called civil rights program. The Governor has repudiated the support of the Gerald L. K. Smiths. He should also repudiate the Ku Klux klan and make his repudiation effective by insisting that the klansters obey the law of South Carolina.

The "third" Ku Klux, which has no connection with the original klan but is a continuation of the "second" or imitation klan which made itself a stench in the nostrils of all decent people, needs to be taught the lesson now that it is subordinate to the law not above it.

Newest Ku Kluxism At Columbia Held Vote Scaring Effort

White robed figures erected and set fire to a six foot cross on the grounds of the Booker Washington Heights school in Colonia Heights suburban section Thursday night and observers linked it with a predicted general attempt to frighten thousands of South Carolina Negroes expected to vote in Democratic primaries this summer.

The emblem of the Ku Klux klan was discovered around mid-night and the sheriff deputies, acting on orders of sheriff Alex T. Heise, hurried to the scene, but were uable to catch the marauders, who departed in the night in a draped automobile.

Several nearby residents reported seening the cross aflame and leisurely watched it die out. Some others, incensed over the incident, and anticipating a return of the culprits, dusted of weapons and held those in readiness should any trouble occur at their own homes.

Generally, however, the residents were more intrested in the sight as curiosity than out of personal fear. One woman aroused her sleeping youngesters to show them what youngsters to show them what kind of work the klan did.

Persistent, but unconfirmed, reports said that South Carolina may have numerous similar incidents this summer and early fall as discouragements to Negro voting.

Nashville Negroes Get Ballot Threats

Mayor Says City Is Flooded With Unsigned Letters

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Nov. 1 (AP).—Mayor Thomas L. Cummings said Monday that Nashville's Negro sections are "flooded" on this election eve with unsigned threatening letters attempting to keep Negroes from the polls.

Postmaster William Gupton said the Mayor had called to inform him about the letters and that he had issued orders that postmen turn in samples of the letters given them by the recipients.

The Mayor said two of the letters contained crude scrawls in red pencil saying:

"Keep away from the polls Nov. 2.

"KKK.

"The Klan knows you."

The 'you" was underscored but the letters were unsigned.

(In Atlanta Imperial Wizard Samuel Green said there is no Ku-Klux Klan organization "within 100 miles of Nashville' and that use of the name and symbol was a hoax. He offered the Mayor and postal authorities "full co-operation" in "tracking down and apprehending the perpetrators" of this hoax.)

The letters are being checked for fingerprints. "Hundreds of these letters have been sent to Negroes and I have had many calls about them," the Mayor added.

The letters bore a Nashville postmark.

3 1948

To Keep Klan Out Of The State

AUSTIN, Tex.—Texas wants no part of the Klan. This fact was confirmed last week when Attorney General Price Daniel stated he would use "every legal action" to keep the Ku Klux Klans from reviving in that state.

"It is obvious from newspaper reports that the Klan leaders are attempting to use the present civil rights controversy as an excuse for organizations in other states," he said.

Texas to Fight Klan Revival

AUSTIN, Tex., July 27 (UP)—Attorney General Price Daniel warned today that he would take "every legal action" to prevent a revival of the Ku Klux Klan in Texas.

He said he wanted the state's position clear in view of plans announced at a Klan conclave at Atlanta for a "south-wide drive."

"It is obvious from newspaper reports," said Daniel, "that the Klan leaders are attempting to use the present civil rights controversy as an excuse for organizations in other states."

Police Report Cross Burning In Richmond

The Record
Columbia S.C.
Wed

RICHMOND, Va., March 24—(UP)—Police said today a cross was burned last night in a section of Richmond inhabited mostly by Negroes and witnesses told them several white-sheeted figures were seen in the light of the flames.

Plainclothesmen George Alexander and C. O. Williams said they found remains of a seven-foot cross on the lawn of the Robert Fulton school. It had been padded with burlap and furniture upholstering and doused with gasoline. 3-24-48

The cross burned about 20 minutes and could be seen about 20 blocks, residents said.

Police said no one was on the school property when they arrived. They said they knew of no Ku Klux Klan organization in Richmond.

The school is for white children.

The next election in Richmond is a primary vote for city councilmen in June. There is one Negro candidate, attorney Oliver Hill, who previously ran for the House of delegates and missed election by a small margin. Wed 3-24-48

Other recent southern cross-burnings have usually been shortly before an election. The Record

Junior KKK Meets Police Waterloo

Mon 8-16-48

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Aug. 15 (AP)—Charleston police said today they had broken up a band of 20 marauding juveniles who described themselves as "Junior Ku Klux Klansmen."

Sgt. Frank Riddle, head of the Juvenile Bureau, said the masked and robed band was made up of 11 white boys, six Negro boys and three white girls, all ranging in age from 9 to 15.

Riddle said they gave him this account of their activities:

Their "raids" included ransacking automobiles, stealing bicycles and beating other children.

They used as weapons heavy blackjacks made from pieces of wood, metal and coat hangers covered with thick plastic tape.

The idea for their gang came from a moving picture depicting the activities of the Ku Klux Klan, they told Riddle.

Riddle said most of the children's parents knew about the organization but "didn't seem to pay any attention to it."

Black And White Kid Kluxer Gang Captured In W. Va.

Chicago Def

CHARLESTON, W. Va.—Believing the saying—"Anything can happen in Brooklyn"—is justly applicable to their city, local police are recovering from shock experienced last week when they captured the "Junior Ku Klux Klansmen," a marauding gang of youngsters, composed of white and Negro children.

When the faces of 20 masked youths were bared there were 11 white, six Negro boys and three white girls found to be in the gang. Sgt. Frank Riddle, head of the Juvenile Bureau said.

The gang members told police they got their idea from a movie and donned waist-length white robes marked with skull and cross bones, and then would ransack automobiles, steal bicycles and whip smaller children.

Riddle said most of the parents knew of the group, but paid no attention to it. Since the "junior klansmen" had no police records, they were warned and turned over without any charges being lodged against them.

KKK Rash Breaks Out in Eastern Va.

Pittsburg Courier
Pittsburg, Pa.

SUFFOLK, Va.—This Ku Klux Klan rash is breaking out in some rather unexpected places. Virginia State police have reported the burning of a fifteen-foot cross near midnight last Saturday on a farm in the peanut-producing area of Nurneyville near here. Witnesses said the affair was a "big mass Ku Klux Klan" initiation with some 100 to 150 robed men taking part.

Klan Parades In Va. Again

Atlanta Daily World

SUFFOLK, Va.—(ANP)—Aroused by the growing demands for equality by Negroes here, the Ku Klux Klan stirred up its venom once more last week as close to 100 hooded persons paraded near here and burned a 15 foot cross at midnight.

Gov. William M. Tuck telegraphed Col. C. W. Woodson, superintendent of the Virginia state police, to investigate the cross burning to see whether any laws had been broken. Wed 12-22-48

The activities of the Klan organization are offensive to the sensibilities of the law-abiding citizens of Virginia," he said. "We will not allow any of our people of any race to be subjected to terrorism or intimidation in any form by the Klan or any other organization whose main strength and force is based on terror."

PROMINENT CIVIC ACTIVITY

Klan activity is believed to be stirring in this vicinity because of the prominent civic activity of Negroes in this area during the past year. Wed 12-22-48

Among the Negro accomplishments are the election of Oliver W. Hill to the Richmond City council, the election of William A. Lawrence to the board of supervisors of Nansemond county, the naming of a Negro deputy sheriff in Nansemond county and the appointment of Dr. S. H. Penn as a member of the school board in Roanoke.

It is believed that the Klan has also objected to the efforts of the NAACP in securing equal school facilities for Virginia children of both races.

Police reported the cross burning on the night of Dec. 10. State Trooper J. L. Collins said he found a charred cross the next morning near here. Wed 12-22-48

Klan Burns 15-Ft. Cross In Virginia

Pittsburgh Courier
Sat 12-25-48
Pittsburgh Pa.

(Special to The Pittsburgh Courier)

SUFFOLK, Va.—Another fiery cross has been burned near here, this time by a crowd of about 125 masked, white-robed men. State police reported the burning of the fifteen-foot cross was part of a mass Ku Klux Klan initiation.

The burning of the cross was the first known evidence of Klan activity in Virginia since last spring when four crosses were burned on roads leading into Suffolk. Sat 12-25-48

State Trooper J. L. Collins, who investigated the latest cross burning, said he was told that the men arrived in cars and stood for nearly an hour in twenty-degree weather at the foot of the blazing cross.

Commonwealth's Attorney Paul Everett said the incident "makes for a bad situation." He added, "It's embarrassing."

Everett said there was "no real violation of the law that we know of, unless hoods were worn." (Under Virginia law, hooded organizations are outlawed.)

Collins said the cross was stoutly built of two-by-fours, bolted firmly together and covered with kerosene-soaked peanut bags.

Governor Tuck Deplores Virginia Cross Burning

Special to Journal and Guide

SAVANNAH, Ga.—Governor Tuck in a statement to the press here on Sunday termed the Friday night burning of a cross near Suffolk, Va. as "offensive to the sensibilities of the law abiding citizens of Virginia." The incident marked the second time in a year that crosses were burned in that vicinity.

Commonwealth's Attorney Paul L. Everett, of Nansemond county, where colored citizens have recently participated in large numbers in important elections, declared almost simultaneously that he would prosecute any persons found guilty of violating the law. Virginia has a law making hooded demonstrations illegal.

Governor Tuck, who was here attending a meeting of the Southern Governors Conference, issued the following statement on the event:

"I have dispatched the following telegram to Col. C. W. Woodson, superintendent of Virginia State Police:

around the time when colored citizens of the county were registering heavily to vote in an important election in the county. Prospective registrants had to pass the spot where the huge cross was burned in order to register at the registrar's home not far away. A colored candidate for membership on the board of supervisors of Nansemond county, William A. Lawrence, won election in that campaign.

Commenting on the incident Commonwealth's Attorney Everett said:

"If there were any violations of the law, I'm going to prosecute it is." He had already said he would make an investigation of the cross burning which witnesses said took place at the section of rural community of Nurneyville, a rural community of Suffolk.

It was reported by witnesses that six miles south of Suffolk. 100 or more persons participated in the cross burning. State Trooper J. L. Collins, who investigated the cross burning, said he was told that "15 or 20" cars drove into the side road intersection with Route 647 where the occupants walked into the field nearby and set fire to a cross. The group is reported to have conducted ceremonies at the foot of the burning cross.

Paper Tells Of Deputy; Cross Burned Next Day

Atlanta Daily World

Fri 12-24-48

SUFFOLK, Va. — (A N P) — A crowd of 100 hooded persons bowed down before a flaming cross in near by Nunneyville last week following the publication of a story in a Negro newspaper that the sheriff of Nansemond county had appointed a Negro deputy.

Atlanta Georgia

Investigators are trying to find out whether the story incited the the cross burning or not. Commonwealth's Attorney Paul L. Everett said he doubted that this appointment caused the cross burning.

"It took some time to prepare that cross," he said. "That newspaper didn't get down here until Friday and the demonstration took place Friday night. I don't think they would have had enough time to get the thing up if the newspaper report started the whole thing. On the other hand, maybe they work much faster than I think."

Fri 12-24-48

Sheriff J. Frank Culpepper, in explaining the appointment of the Huntersville Negro to his staff, said the colored officer was a "juvenile officer" to get children of Huntersville to school and report disturbances. This area is practically all Negro.

Knoxville K. K. K. To Meet At Wallace Speech Hour

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., Sept. 3—(AP)—The welcome mat is out for the public and the press at a Ku Klux Klan initiation here Saturday night, J. R. Huling, exalted cyclops of the K. K. K. in Knoxville, has announced. Fri. 9-3-48

"We are trying to educate the public to the fact we're fighting communism and the civil rights program, and we want the public and the press to attend," Huling said.

The Klan leader also said the ceremony to be conducted by 2,000 to 3,000 Klansmen under the lights of a burning cross was not planned to coincide with the scheduled speech here of Henry Wallace, Progressive Party presidential candidate. Fri. 9-3-48

The Wallace speech is set for Mount Olive Negro Baptist Church at 7 p.m. (Birmingham time), the same hour as the Klan ceremony planned for a field near the city.

The Klan ceremony had been planned for several months, Huling said. "I'm glad it's happened this way, because none of our men will be over at the Wallace meeting, and if anything does happen there, then the Klan can't be charged with it," Huling declared.

3 1948

Homer Loomis, Jr.

Court Refuses Columbian Plea To Nullify Law

The Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.

The Georgia Supreme Court refused Friday a plea to wipe out the law under which Homer Loomis, Jr., brown-shirted leader of the Columbians, was sentenced to three and a half years in prison.

Loomis' father, a New York attorney who represented his son, had contended a Georgia statute forbidding private persons from assuming police power was unconstitutional. Sat. 3-20-48

The younger Loomis was convicted under the statute after his Columbians allegedly patrolled Atlanta streets where there was friction between whites and Negroes.

The Supreme Court held that no valid question of constitutionality had been presented. It transferred the case to the Georgia Court of Appeals on the grounds that it was a routine appeal in a misdemeanor conviction which the Supreme Court could not consider.

3 1948

Original Southern Klans, Inc.

KLAN KOMES TO KOURT—About 100 spectators gathered for a meeting of Original Southern Klans, Inc., in the Circuit Court room at Phenix City, Ala., Saturday. The Rev. E. G. (Parson Jack) Johnston, of Columbs, Ga., addressed the group while 15 hooded members (above) listened from the jury box. Speakers spoke against President Truman's civil rights program. (Associated Press wirephoto.)

3 1948

Gerald L. K. Smith

Happy Day for Gerald L. K.:
Thomas Group Probes Smith

WASHINGTON

The off-again-on-again investigation of fascism in America led by Rep. John McDowell (R., Pa.), chairman of a House Un-American Activities Subcommittee, is on again.

Rep. J. Parnell Thomas (R., N. J.), chairman of the full committee, announced that McDowell's group would begin hearings next week into the racial pamphlets and financial backing of Gerald L. K. Smith.

McDowell, who reported five weeks ago that hearings would not be held because there were not any fascists in the U. S. A. worth investigating, promised something "sensational."

"We've got something that may turn out to be sensational," said McDowell, talking again like the McDowell who said seven weeks ago there would be open public hearings involving "some pretty important people."

After some eight months of investigating fascism, McDowell said that Committee investigators were on the trail of a mysterious document, some way connected with Smith, which, McDowell said, may have an important bearing on the National welfare.

At Tulsa, Okla., Smith said he would be willing and eager, as always, to testify and tell all about his America First Movement and his Christian Nationalist Crusade.

Hinting that he knew what the Committee investigtaors were after, Smith said he was prepared to testify that some of his financial backers have also contributed to the campaigns of Reps. Thomas and McDowell.

Smith said he wouldn't name the backers except under oath at a public hearing in Washington, and then only if "convinced that Mr. McDowell and Mr. Thomas want to hear them."

Earlier, Smith announced that he was moving his headquarters to St. Louis, deciding to abandon Detroit after viewing a map which indicated that 50 strategically placed atom bombs could paralyze the U. S. A.

"The center of this zone," said Smith "is in Detroit."

ANTI-SEMITISM

Sirs: Chicago, Ill. 1-12-48 mon.

I have observed your recent articles concerning the menace of anti-Semitism and racial consciousness. I have also read some of the letters that have appeared in your columns devoted to the voice of the people. I believe you call it "Letters to the Editors."

I observe that no letters have appeared expressing the viewpoint of the alleged anti-Semites. If so-called anti-Semitism is so completely wrong and illogical, why is it that you never publish the viewpoint of the alleged anti-Semites? It strikes me that if those of us who have been publicized as anti-Semites are so completely wrong in our viewpoint, the mere publication of some of our expressed opinions would expose us to increased ridicule. . . .

Chicago, Ill.

GERALD L. K. SMITH

Detroit, Mich.

Life 1-12-48-mon

● Reader Smith, Huey Long's stanch No. 1 man and founder of the America First Party, recently formed a new one. Known as the Christian Nationalist Party, it is pledged to fight, among other things, "the United Nations, mongrelization of races and Governor Dewey."—ED.

Gerald K. Smith Says Race Is Real Issue

The Call Kansas City, Mo

BIRMINGHAM. — (ANP) — Race is the real issue in the coming election, race baiter Gerald L. K. Smith said here last week.

He said that he was "stunned and amazed" that Gov. J. Strom Thurmond of South Carolina, dixiecrats' Presidential candidate, "fails to realize that the racial issue is the issue in the southern revolt."

"The elementary fact is that the rank and file of white people just won't stand to have black and white forced on them by the federal government. That is the governor's platform whether he knows it or not."

GERALD SMITH FAILS TO STOP GENTLEMANS AGREEMENT SHOWING

The Daily Worker

TULSA, Okla., April 11—"Gentleman's Agreement," anti-discrimination motion picture which Picture Arts and Sciences award won the Academy of Motion as the best picture of 1947, opened at the Orpheum Theater despite opposition by Gerald L. K. Smith, head of the Christian Nationalist Crusade.

Smith sued for a temporary restraining order against the local showing. He already has a suit for damages against the producers of the picture in which he is classed as a leader in race hate.

Rabble-Rousing Carpet Baggerism

The Black Dispatch

It all depends upon who the carpet-bagger is as to whether we like him down South. Some time ago we noted in one of Oklahoma's leading dailies a letter from a woman who lives in Louisiana, to the editor, telling Oklahoma Negroes what to do about graduate training. It appeared the Oklahoma editor welcomes information coming from a southern lady who resides south of Shreveport, and took no offense to this sort of outside interferance, so long as the lady was admonishing Negroes to accept jim crow.

Oklahoma City, Okla.

Last week we saw additional evidence of Oklahoma's propensity to listen to out-state "isms" it they suit our fancy. In the latter instance we find open acceptance of Gerald L. K. Smith, rabble-rouser, and hater of minority groups, who poses as the leader of the Christian National Crusade, an organization, anti-Negro, anti-Jew and just about anti-everything.

Tul. 4-24-48

This holier-than-thou demagogue showed up at the Wallace hearing at the capital last week, in an attempt to prove the Wallace organization in the state is communistic. On questioning he was forced to admit he did not know a single member of the state organization, and did not know any of them held membership in the communist party. When push came to shove, he had to openly admit he is a fraud, and had projected himself into a local situation in a way he could not defend himself.

But the state attorney's office certainly went out of its way to split hairs, providing opportunity for this hate monger to testify. If residence in the state one year, the county six months and the precinct thirty days qualifies individuals for state citizenship, Gerald K. Smith is not a citizen of Oklahoma, and yet when the challenge came respecting his state citizenship the attorney general's office observed that the law does not expressly say a man must have state citizenship. He is only required to be a citizen, and Mr. Hansen ruled that Mr. Smith is a eitizen of the United States.

And the mountain labored and brought forth a mouse. When he was called to testify, Gerald L. K. Smith produced a lot of newspaper clippings that bore no relation what-soever to the Progressive Party of Oklahoma or the charge that it was contaminated with communism. This is a fine example of smear campaigns calculated to destroy the good name of individuals and organizations in the United States at the present time.

People who go out to listen to harangues from irresponsible individuals of this sort never get out from under such influence without having one of their pet peeves of prejudices touched. Smith will pound a table for two hours and before he concludes he has reached the weak spot in the heart of just about all of his auditors. He is not a positive but a negative force. He's "agin" everything.

In a recent meeting in Tulsa, after he had gotten his audience thoroughly heated up, Smith shouted:

"We're not going to let the Negroes who were eating each other's flesh in the jungles of Africa 200 years ago, run over the white race which has centuries of culture and civilization behind it."

Naturally that got a big hand from that portion of the group who are anti-Negro, and in the next breath he was making an appeal to that portion of the crowd who are opposed to alien emigration:

"Foreigners should not come into this country and take the housing, food and jobs away from the veterans who have lost a leg or an arm fighting for this country," Smith said.

In the next breath this carpet bagger who comes to Oklahoma told his audience that:

"Russian Jews are poisioning the minds of our children."

The fact that this political clown praises no one in Oklahoma but Ross Risley and Senator Ed Moore causes sure these aliens are all working people trying to escape honest living. We're not so sure as to the integrity of this new Tulsa citizen who shows a surprizing knowledge about state affairs before he gets dry under the chin.

We do hope that the Republican organization did not bring Christian Fronter Smith into Oklahoma to talk about some things they are afraid to touch. He seems to be opposed to civil rights for Negroes and also is much disturbed regarding the school situation. In one of his recent addresses Smith told his audience:

"Everybody knows that Negro boys come into adolescence much earlier than whites. We don't want them thrown with our little innocent white girls in the third and fourth grade."

Thus you get a true picture of this carpet bagger scoundrel who enters our state to disrupt, and attempt to destroy the growing liberalism among young white and black people. Smith is against the New Deal, Henry Wallace and what he calls "beaucratic facism." He talks of treason in the federal government and leaves his audience dominated by a thousand fears. In such an atmosphere of uncertainty he takes over. The question the Black Dispatch wants answered is "Who brought Gerald L. K. Smith to Oklahoma?" Somebody is his Santa Claus. He seems to be cussing Democrats—not Republicans. We wonder whether that is a clue? We wonder whether the Republicans are afraid to tackle the civil rights issue and plan to have this unspeakable carper-bagger do the job for them?

The White Circle

Aha! Ku Klux Klan Has Competition

Gettysburg, Pa.
Pittsburg Courier

TULSA, Okla. — Listing its objectives as "the defeat of communism" and retention of existing racial segregation laws, "The White Circle"—a hooded organization akin to the Ku Klux Klan—claims a large membership in the Tulsa area. Recently the local Circle entertained the imperial commander who heads the group nationally. Dat-12-18-48

Emblem of the organization—one of the most secret ever heard of in this area—is a white circle bearing a center of black and ensconced upon a square blackground. Its meeting place are also a closely-guarded secret.